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ONE PENNY

A ROYAL WEDDING.

We give some further particulars of the marriage of the Count of Flanders with the Princess Mary of Hohenzollern, which was celebrated at St. Hedwig's, on the 25th, as announced last week. The ceremony took place at three o'clock in the afternoon. From twelve o'clock a great multitude of people filled the streets surrounding the church, all bent on witnessing the arrival of the Royal family, and of the bridal couple, in their state carriages. Admission to the church was granted only to those who were provided with tickets distributed by the Royal Herald's office, and the number of such tickets was exceedingly limited. Within the church the high altar shone in floral splendour; immediately in front of it two chairs were placed for the betrothed couple; before its steps on the right and left stood two rows of red velvet chairs for the members of the Royal Court and their guests. Behind them, on the right, were the seats destined for the ambassadors, and behind those seats, to the left of the altar, the places reserved for the members of the legations, the highest dignitaries of the state, and the military generals. The central nave was allotted to the ladies of the Court society. The envoys and ambassadors were fully represented at the ceremony. The Protestant clergy stood beside the front rows on the left altar. At a quarter past two the Catholic clergy—about twenty-five priests, among whom there was a Dominican—left the church in procession, in order to receive the Prince Bishop on his arrival. Soon afterwards the delegate made his appearance, and put on his

Pontifical robes. Meanwhile the members of the Royal family arrived—first, her Royal Highness the Princess Louisa, Landgravine of Hesse-Philippsthal; then came the family of the Crown Prince, foremost the Princess Frederic William and Henry and the Princess Charlotte, after them his Royal Highness the Crown Prince, leading his illustrious lady. After them entered the Princesses Charles and Frederic Charles; the trains of the Princesses were each carried by two pages in ordinary. The clergy, preceded by the Prince Bishop, then repaired to the principal entrance, in order to receive their majesties the King and the Queen, who, followed by the chief officers of the court and the Princes Charles, Frederic Charles, Albrecht, father and son, Adalbert, Alexander, and George of Prussia, Prince August of Wurtemberg, Prince Henry of Hesse, and Prince Nicolaus of Nassau, entered precisely at three o'clock, and seated themselves on the right of the altar. After this the clergy received the illustrious betrothed couple. The Count of Flanders led the Princess Mary on his left arm. The bride couple were followed by the King of Belgium, all the members of the princely family of Hohenzollern, the Hereditary Prince and Princess of Anhalt, and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha. The King, the Crown Prince, and Prince Charles, the Belgian Princes, and the Prince of Hohenzollern, wore the grand ribbon of the Leopold Order; the other Prussian Princes only the chain of the Black Eagle. The bride wore a white robe of point lace, a train of *drap d'argent*, borne by her maids of honour. Her head was adorned by an ample

myrtle wreath, over which rose her diadem, from which depended a veil wrought with silver. On the entrance of the bridal couple the Royal cathedral choir intoned a hymn commencing with the words "Immitte Sanctum Spiritum" (a composition by Schuttki). The betrothed couple then sat down on the chairs in front of the altar, and the Prince Bishop, Dr. Forster, began a short address, in which he pointed out the divine origin of matrimony. This address was followed by the marriage vow, before pronouncing which the illustrious bridegroom bowed, first to the King, his brother, and then to the King of Belgium. After this rings were exchanged amidst the clanging of bells and the roar of the cannon drawn up on the "Lustgarten." The illustrious couple then, kneeling with the prescribed ceremonies, received the benedictions, and the cathedral choir sang, in conclusion of the solemn act, the *Te Deum* (by Fests). While it lasted the bridegroom and bride were surrounded by the members of their households and the retinues allotted to them by them by the Berlin Court. The clergy formed a semi-circle around the high altar, and after the termination of the ceremony escorted the newly-married couple to their carriage; they were followed by his Majesty the King with the Princess of Hohenzollern, the King of Belgium with her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Hohenzollern with her Royal Highness the Crown Princess; then came the other illustrious personages. At four o'clock the ceremony was finished. It was followed by a state banquet at the Royal Castle, in the course of which his Majesty the King proposed the health of the newly-married couple.



DOUBTFUL CONTRABANDISTS CROSSING THE FRONTIERS

SOCIETY:

Its Facts and its Rumours.

The Duke of Bedford has given £500 to Mrs. Gladstone's Convalescent Home.

There is no foundation whatever for the statement as to the intended marriage between Lord Browlow and Lady Adelaide Talbot.

The Prince of Wales, we are sorry to learn from the *Orchestra*, has been patronising, at a bachelor party at Whitehall, that brace of music-hall creatures, A. Lloyd and "The Jolly Nash."

The Prince of Wales was so pleased with Tenniel's cartoon in last week's *Punch*, that he sent for the original block upon which the picture was drawn. The block was accordingly sent to Marlborough House.

The *Western Morning News* states that her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant the Speke family permission to incorporate in their arms an emblematic representation of the discovery of the source of the Nile.

A proposal has been made that the committee of Brooke's Club should have the power to admit without ballot five peers or commoners every year, one of the supposed reasons for the suggestion being that, if so empowered, they would probably admit in this way the Duke of Argyll and Mr. Gladstone.

Sir E. Landseer has painted a new portrait of the Queen, mounted on her pony and attended by a Highland gillie, which will be found at the forthcoming Academy exhibition. One or two unfinished works by the late Mr. John Phillip will also be exhibited.

The Prince Imperial has so far recovered that all serious anxiety is now at an end. He is gradually resuming his former activity. After the somewhat prolonged confinement within doors to which he has been subjected, it may be desirable that he should have the benefit of country air; but there is no question of any change of climate being necessary. His general health is at present good.

The Queen has signified her intention of laying the first stone of the Hall of Arts and Sciences on Monday, the 20th May. The contractors for the building Messrs. Lucas Brothers, are busily engaged in making preparations for the ceremony. The ground is being excavated to some feet in depth so as to mark out the amphitheatrical form of the building, and the excavation will be covered in with canvas to protect the spectators of the ceremony from every contingency of weather.

The 24th anniversary of the birthday of her Royal Highness the Princess Alice and Mary of Hesse Darmstadt, has been celebrated at Windsor. At early morn, and at intervals throughout the day, joyous peals were sent forth from the curfew tower of the Chapel Royal of St. George and St. John's Church. At noon a royal salute was fired in the Long Walk from the corporation ordnance by the town bombardier; and at the same hour royal salutes were fired from Fort Belvedere in the Great Park, which were answered from the Addicks frigate in Virginia Water.

Each day during the past week has been one of satisfactory progress in the condition of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. Natural sleep during the night has also been fully restored. The swelling and other inflammatory symptoms in the knee-joint have greatly subsided, and it is much less sensitive on being handled. The general health has throughout been well maintained; and there is, happily, no room for further anxiety than that which attaches to the doubt as to the possibility of restoration of the natural movements of a joint which has been so roughly invaded by an insidious, prolonged, and severe inflammation.

Her Majesty the Queen and Royal family, attended by the suite, leave Windsor Castle, it is expected, this week for Osborne. During her Majesty's residence in the Isle of Wight their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian and infant son will reside in the Lancaster Tower of Windsor Castle, at which Palace, it is anticipated, the Royal christening will take place on the return of the Queen previous to her Majesty making a trip to Balmoral. Her Royal Highness Princess Christian is understood to be making rapid progress towards convalescence, and, if well, the Prince and Princess may probably accompany the Queen to Scotland, instead of taking up their residence at Frogmore.

The progress of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales towards recovery during the past week has been uninterrupted and more than usually satisfactory. A distinct and steady improvement has taken place day by day in the state of the affected joint, with a corresponding diminution of pain and swelling. The amount of sleep enjoyed has been greater than during the previous week, whilst her Royal Highness's general health still continues to exhibit remarkable freedom from disurbance. We have more than once referred to the cheerfulness with which this painful illness is borne. It may be added that prolonged confinement seems in no way to diminish the evidence of this happy quality. Nor has personal affliction succeeded, as is too often the case, in destroying remembrance of the distress of others. On Wednesday last her Royal Highness sent by the hands of her surgeons a variety of books and toys, which she had herself selected for the sick children at present in the wards of St. Bartholomew's and St. George's Hospitals. It need scarcely be said that the little patients received with the liveliest pleasure these kindly evidences of sympathy and thoughtful consideration.

RITUALISM.—The following graphic description appears in an article under this head in the *Edinburgh Review* just published:—Sir Walter Scott used to tell, with much zest, a story of a man who tried to frighten his friend by encountering him at midnight on a lonely spot, which was supposed to be the resort of a ghostly visitant. He took his seat on the haunted stone wrapped in a long white sheet. Presently, to his horror, the real ghost appeared and sat down beside him, with the ominous ejaculation, "You are a ghost, and I am a ghost, let us come closer together;" and closer and closer the ghost pressed, till the sham ghost, overcome with terror, fainted away. "This, we fear, is the fate which awaits the Ritualist imitators of the Church of Rome. That mighty ghost,—the ghost of the deceased Roman Empire,—the ghost of the dead middle-ages,—will press closer and closer to our poor dressed up ghost, till the greater absorbs the lesser, and deprives it, by mere juxtaposition, of any true spirit life."

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents Eightpence per lb. Cheapest. Every Genuine Packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—(Advertisement.)

LONDON GOSSIP.

The *Little Times* is the title of a new daily evening paper, conducted by Captain Mayne Reid.

John G. Saxe, the American facetious poet, has been engaged, it is said, to write for *Punch*.

The Government has determined to give £10,000 to Major Palliser for his improvements of ordnance.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says the authorities have decided on calling out the Irish militia regiments for training this summer.

On the 1st of May appeared a new comic periodical called *Judy*. The centre is occupied by Judy and her cat, instead of Punch and his dog Toby.

Mr. T. J. A. Robartes, for many years the Liberal member for the Eastern Division of Cornwall, has intimated that he has finally resolved not to offer himself for re-election.

We are glad to hear the very best accounts of the working of the Snider rifle with the No. 3 cartridge. It appears to leave nothing to be desired, and both officers and men now engaged in practice are quite enthusiastic about its merits.

The second Exhibition of the National Portraits will open at South Kensington about the middle of May, and contain nearly nine hundred pictures, the mass of which are of very high artistic value and personal interest.

A very useful and considerate arrangement is about to be adopted on the Bristol and Exeter line. On and after the 1st of May, a second-class compartment in all trains will be exclusively reserved for ladies.

Dr. Cumming has published a book called "The Last Woe," in which he says that the Jews are to be converted as a nation, and the Papacy extinguished between the autumnal equinox of 1867 and the same period of 1868.

A short honeymoon is reported by the correspondent of an Irish paper:—"A young man, sixteen years of age, named Sutton, who had been but one day married, was sentenced to a month's imprisonment for deserting his wife."

It was observable on Sunday that floral decorations in celebration of Easter were used in an increasing number of the London churches, the incumbents of many of which are not remarkable as ritualists.

The *Caledonian Mercury*, which claimed to be the oldest newspaper in Scotland, and which for some months past had been issued in the form of an evening halfpenny paper, ceased on Saturday last to be published, after an existence (since 1662), of more than two centuries.

Large quantities of hares and rabbits, which were killed on the Marquis of Exeter's estates, have been forwarded to Poplar for the benefit of the starving poor in that district. It is said that his lordship had previously shown in a substantial form his sympathy for the distressed there.

The dispute in the tailoring trade appears likely to spread all over the country, the masters having determined to resist the demands of the men to the utmost. A large and influential meeting was held on Saturday afternoon last, when resolutions to that effect were unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Thomas Vernon, whose fine engraving from Mr. Cope's picture, "The First-Born," has been so highly appreciated, has almost completed a large plate in the purest line manner, from a picture by Murillo, which is styled "The Pool of Bethesda," a work formerly in the possession of Marshal Soult, and now owned by Mr. Tomlines, M.P.

Mr. Harford Mellor, an antiquarian, asserts that he has discovered the remains of King Alfred, which have now been buried 966 years. Mr. Mellor feels confident that the Royal remains are now lying in the gilt mortuary over the church of Hyde parish church, and the two leaden plates found, with the King's name upon them, are now in the hands of the vicar, Mr. Williams.

For years past there has been a talk about a park for Southwark, where it is wanted badly enough. At last there is some prospect of having it—said in a quarter of a century or so! The Board of Works have just concluded negotiations for the ground, about 60 acres, and have actually got so far as to order their architect to prepare plans.

The charge of indecent assault made against the Rev. George Capel, of Carshalton, after prolonged and repeated investigations, has been dismissed by the magistrate. This decision will be unanimously approved. We regard it as being not only right in law, but also right in justice. That is, we are morally convinced of the entire innocence of the rev. gentleman of the offence imputed to him.

Mr. Ross, a private citizen of Edinburgh, has offered the sum of 2,000*l.* to the Town Council for the erection of an ornamental fountain in East Princes-street Garden, from a design by Durenne, of Paris. The fountain is to cost 3,500*l.*, and the balance of the outlay is proposed to be raised by public subscription, the Town Council granting a site and providing the water supply.

"A Scotch Peer," suggests that all the Scotch and Irish peers ought now to have seats in the House of Lords, an arrangement which would only add about 88 to the number of the Upper House—29 Scotch, and 59 Irish.—The *Day* suggests that the peers might walk in procession *a la* Potter, Beales, and Co., and demand theirs.

A meeting of the friends of the Conservative party took place on Monday at the Freemasons' Tavern, to consider the expediency of forming a League in the interests of the Conservative party, as a means of uniting and communicating with the Conservative associations already formed, or in course of formation. Lord Percy occupied the chair.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* having admitted into its columns a statement "that the Bishop of Carlisle has declared that he will not allow the popular hymn of 'Jerusalem the Golden' to be sung in any service in which he takes a part," the right rev. prelate writes to that paper to say "that there is no truth whatever in the report in question."

A deputation, consisting of several friends of the family of Miss Partridge (for a rape upon whom Neville Maskelyne Toomer, a widower, of Reading, is undergoing fifteen years' penal servitude) waited last week upon the Right Hon. S. H. Walpole, the Home Secretary, who heard the representations made with great patience and attention.

Two more frescoes by Mr. Cope, R.A., are now being placed in the corridor of the House of Lords. The subjects are "The Setting out of Train-Bands from London to raise the Siege of Gloucester," and "Speaker Lenthall asserting the Privileges of the Commons against Charles the First when the attempt was made to seize the Five Members." These two complete the series of frescoes for the Peers' Corridor.

Mr. W. O. Ward has published a series of "Studies in Westminster Abbey, Sketched and Drawn on Stone by Mr. Luther Hooper," comprising sixteen works in all, and derived from Poets' Corner, the tomb of Edward III., a piece of wood-carving now preserved in Henry VII.'s Chapel, formerly belonging to the Choir of the Abbey, the entrance to St. Erasmus's Chapel, tomb of Amyer de Valence, and others which do not equal in merit these which we name here.

The past week has been memorable in the annals of the fishermen at Danbar, from the enormous quantity of crabs which have been caught and despatched to the southern markets. In the first part of the week the takes averaged from fifty to seventy dozens, which was considered very high. By the middle of the week they had run up to 100 dozens, and on Friday week every boat was entering the harbour loaded to the gunwale, several of them computing their catch at from 150 to 200 dozens.

Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., has just completed one of the series of pictures for the decoration of the corridor in the Parliament House. It represents the departure of the Seven Bishops from the Court after their acquittal, and will shortly be placed in the panel for which it was designed. Another painting, representing William III. and Mary II. receiving the crown from the Parliament of Great Britain, which is intended to complete the series above referred to, is in course of execution by Mr. Ward.

The Cobden statue at Manchester was uncovered on Monday evening. The mayor presided at the ceremony. Mr. Bazley, M.P., was present, but not Mr. Edward James, and the only member of Parliament besides the senior member for the city was Mr. Whitworth. The sculptor is Mr. Marshall Wood. The likeness is pronounced to be exceedingly good. The figure is ten feet high, and stands upon a lofty square pedestal. The face looks towards the front of the Royal Exchange.

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It would seem that Mr. Corry is resolved not to look upon mere seniority as a recommendation for either promotion or reward. It was generally believed in professional circles that Admiral Sir George R. Sartorius would have succeeded the late Admiral Sir Phipps Hornby as Rear-Admiral of the United Kingdom; but on comparing the services of the different officers it was found that Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby had such superior claims that they could not be ignored, and it was, therefore, resolved to pass over Sir George and Lord Fitzharding, and to appoint Sir Fairfax to the distinguished vacant post.

Dean Stanley, in his forthcoming work, "Memoirs of Westminster Abbey," will substantiate the oft-disputed position that Oliver Cromwell's body was actually deposited in a vault in Henry VII.'s Chapel, now known as the Ormerod Vault. It is a remarkable fact that whereas not a single lineal and legitimate descendant of Charles I. is now in existence, the descendants of the Protector are to be found in every rank of life short of royalty. Among other descendants in the female line we may mention the Earls of Clarendon, De Grey, and Ripon, the late Sir E. C. Whynates, the late Sir George Cornwall Lewis, General Bowles, and the Russells of Cheshunt.

Bachelors should read Dr. Stark's pamphlet "On the Influence of Marriage on Death-rates," in which he states "that it is proved by trustworthy statistics, applicable to the whole population, that the influence of marriage on the mortality of the male is of the most potent kind; that, in fact, the bachelor life is much more destructive to the male sex than the most unwholesome of trades, or than a residence in a crowded locality where there is not the most distant attempt at sanitary arrangements of any kind. This conclusion is fully borne out by looking at the table from a different point of view, viz., by calculating the mean age at death of the married and of the unmarried men. If we take the whole married and the whole unmarried, whose deaths are noted in the table, viz., from 29 years of age to the close of life, we find that the mean age at death of the married men was 59½ years; whereas the mean age at death of the bachelors was only 40 years. Reckoning from the 20th year of life, therefore, married men have a chance of living 19½ years longer than those who live unmarried."

An extraordinary Reform Demonstration was held on Sunday morning last on Clerkenwell-green. At half-past ten a platform was erected, and at eleven o'clock the chair was taken and a resolution carried which stigmatised the Reform Bill introduced by the Government as a monstrous insult to the unfranchised masses. At three o'clock the Reformers re-assembled on the green, and about an hour afterwards formed in professional order, and accompanied by a military band and bearing banners, proceeded to the Church of St. Alban the Martyr, where a special service "for the people," was held. At the service the church was densely crowded, and a remarkable feature in the appearance of the congregation was the wearing of Reform tricolour scarves by those who marched from Clerkenwell. Reform banners were borne into the church, and the entire scene—the service being conducted in strictly ritualistic fashion—was novel and impressive. The service was throughout intoned, and was conducted by the Rev. A. H. Mackenzie. The rev. gentleman took for his text—"The word was made flesh" (John, i. 4). The preacher proceeded to show that as Christ was a man his sympathies were with men, and he exhorted those Reformers who had passed resolutions that day in support of the principles to which they adhered to add yet another and a greater resolution—that of fidelity to the doctrine preached by the Saviour of the World. The sermon was listened to with attention, and at the conclusion of the service the Reformers returned to Clerkenwell-green, where another meeting was held.

Oh, yes! Oh, yes! Oh, yes!—It is an acknowledged fact that Jones & Co.'s Hall-Quince Hat (the Hamilton) is the best-shaped one in London, equal to what is sold by twelve and six at the West-end houses. Jones & Co.'s Manufactories, 75, Long Acre—Advt.

FOREIGN SCRAPS.

The Spanish soldiers who entered Portuguese territory during the late Spanish revolt have been sent to Madrid.

The Emperor has written a letter, in which in clear, concise, and strong terms, he defines the position and duty of France.

The physical and mental state of health of the Empress Charlotte is giving serious apprehensions.

The arrival of King George I. of Greece is announced for next month.

The number of newspapers in the German language published in Europe is 3,241, of which 747 are political.

On the 29th inst. took place at Rome, the brilliant marriage between Miss Davis and Prince Cervetti the eldest son of Prince Ruspoli.

It is thought that the Emperor and Empress of Russia, will visit Paris, after having passed a few weeks at Kissingen.

A seven days' quarantine has been ordered for all arrivals in Italian ports from Dalmatia, on account of the prevalence of cholera in that kingdom.

A new goldfield has been discovered, about 18 or 19 miles from Dandenong, near the Emerald, Victoria. The sinking is about 18 feet deep.

The King and Queen of Portugal, whose visit we announced last week, are said to have retained a large suite of apartments at the Bristol Hotel in the Place Vendôme, for which they have agreed to pay 3 000 francs a day.

M. Emile de Girardin, proprietor and chief editor of the *Liberte*, has again been fined 5 000 francs, and his printer 100 francs. This makes the second fine of the like amount within the space of a month.

King William of Prussia has purchased for 4,000 crowns two pictures, painted by the Crown Princess (the Princess Royal of England), and presented by her to a bazaar for the benefit of the poor of Berlin.

The Hungarian Diet will re-assemble on the 8th of May, and will continue its sittings until the day of the coronation, when it will be adjourned until the autumn. The coronation will take place at the beginning of June.

According to intelligence from Stockholm his Royal Highness the Duke of Dalecarlia has so far recovered from his apoplectic attack that the medical men now entertain no doubt of his recovery.

At a 4th of July celebration in Marion county, Ill., a young lady offered the following toast:—"The young men of America: their arms our support, our arms their reward. Fall in, men—fall in."

Notwithstanding the assurances of peace, France continues to prepare for war with her wonted activity. At the Ministère de la Guerre the clerks are working night and day, and preparations are already made for the brigading of two corps d'armée.

A communication from Rome states that the Spanish Ambassador in that city is charged with a negotiation for a diminution of the number of festival days, which is very considerable in the Iberian Peninsula, and for the adoption of the system prevalent in France.

It is confirmed that Austria has proposed the cession of Luxemburg to Belgium, the latter ceding to France Marienburg, Philippeville, and Bouillon. That proposal, declined at Berlin, was accepted at Paris, but the Emperor Napoleon refused any territorial compensation injurious to Belgium.

Letters from Florence mention that a marriage has been arranged between Mr. Gustave Oppenheim, of Alexandria, nephew of the banker to the Viceroy of Egypt, and Signora Eugénie Fenzi, granddaughter of Senator Fenzi, the well-known Florentine banker.

M. Balbiani, in a paper to the French Academy of Sciences, on the diseases of silkworms, states that many worms, at the moment of their being hatched, are already afflicted with poro-permic corpuscles in their inner organs; the disease, therefore, was developed during the embryonic period, and their early death must be the consequence.

It is said that in consequence of an order issued by Lord Cranbourne during the time he held the office of Secretary of State for India, that in future the Governor-General should reside at Calcutta during the summer months, the present Viceroy has made up his mind to retire at the end of the current year. We find it difficult to believe that such an order ever proceeded from Lord Cranbourne's pen.

The united committees of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, the Spanish Abolitionist Society (La Sociedad Abolicionista Española), and the Comité Français d'Émancipation have agreed to postpone the holding of the International Anti-Slavery Conference in Paris until the 26th of August next. The period originally fixed was the third week in June.

Severe laws have been promulgated at St. Petersburg against all illegal and secret societies engaged in pernicious pursuits, under whatever title they may exist. The same measure enacts that acts of incendiarism having now lost the character they possessed in 1862 and 1864, only political incendiaries will in future be amenable to martial law.

The tunnel through Mont Cenis continues to progress much more rapidly now that the quartz rock has been passed through, and a softer material encountered. The whole distance as yet penetrated is, on the south, 4,119 metres, and on the north, 2,528 metres; total, 6,647 metres, which, as the entire length is 12,220 metres, leaves yet to be executed 5,573 metres.

Professor Freilli, undismayed by Dr. Livingstone's probable fate, has started for Algeria, hoping to solve the Saharan problem, whether it be possible to unite the two French-African colonies of Senegal and Algeria by a caravan road, passing through Timbuctoo; and M. de Saint is still prosecuting his researches in Central Africa, with, it is stated, great probability of their yielding a rich scientific harvest.

The match between the Paris Club and I Zingari.—The second match of the Paris cricket week was commenced on Thursday last, and brought to a conclusion yesterday in favour of I Zingari, in one innings, by 182 runs, the following being a

summary of the result, received last evening by telegram: I Zingari—1st innings, 218. The Paris Club—1st innings, 61; 2nd innings, 35—total, 96. So I Zingari won in one innings by 122 runs.

The extraordinary session of the Prussian Chambers was opened on Monday by the King in person. The chief topic of his Majesty's speech was the constitution of the North German Confederation, and the position of the Prussians under it. His Majesty made no direct mention of the Luxemburg question, but said that his Government would endeavour to avert any interruption to the peace of Europe by every means compatible with the honour and interests of the Fatherland.

A communication of the 18th from Velo, in Thessaly, says:—"A dispatch from Larisa informs us that the band of the famous brigand Doulia, which, during seven years, had ravaged Thessaly, was yesterday attacked in the village of Petrino by 120 mounted Circassians. A sanguinary combat ensued, and the entire band, composed of sixty men, was destroyed—that is to say, all the brigands were either killed or wounded. The chief is amongst the dead. Only five of the Circassians were injured."

His Majesty the King of the Greeks left Athens on Monday for Marseilles, and is expected to arrive at Paris on Saturday, where he will stay for two or three days, and then proceed to England, on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Marlborough-house, which will extend until about the 19th of May. His Majesty will then proceed to Copenhagen on a visit to the King of Denmark. Should the health of the Princess have considerably improved by that time, it is the intention of the Queen of Denmark to return with her son King George to Copenhagen.

M. Anquetil, a Frenchman, who has lived several years in Birman, describes a certain specimen of lizard found in that country, which, by its croaking, announces the approach of an earthquake. He thinks that this prophetic lizard might advantageously be acclimated in Algeria and the West Indies, as the gecko of Ceylon has been in Sicily, Corsica, Spain, and Provence. The Birman lizard seems to be a variety of the gecko, and M. Anquetil thinks it would be worth ascertaining by observation whether the gecko is endowed with a similar instinct, which would render it invaluable in countries subject to terrestrial commotions.

The *Courrier du Jura* gives the following remarkable example of the effects of lightning. A small farmer of O-dagna, named Debauchez, was returning home from his work, when a violent thunderstorm broke over the district, and the electric fluid forced away a basket which he was carrying on his shoulder, tore his clothes to shreds, and broke the wooden shoes on his feet into splinters. When he reached home three large bruises were found on his body, one in the stomach, another in the loins, and a third on the left hip; and, in addition, the general shock to his system was so great that his life is considered in danger.

The text of the treaty between Russia and the United States, by which the former of those powers cedes to the latter the territories known by the name of Russian America, has been published. Its most interesting clauses refer to the political and religious rights of the ceded territories. Those of the inhabitants who may choose to do so are free to return to Russia within three years; if they elect to remain, however, they are to be admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States. They are to be protected in the enjoyment of their religion as well as their property, it being especially provided that the churches built for worship according to the rights of the Greek Church are to remain the property of that church.

We have just received from our Paris correspondent the tenor of the letter addressed by Queen Victoria to the King of Prussia on the disturbed relations of France and Prussia through the Luxemburg question. Her Majesty conjures the King of Prussia, in consideration of the intimate relations of the two countries, and in the name of the two family ties, to spare Europe the horrors of a war like that which is now threatened; and observes that in case of war England will not be able to give Prussia even her moral support, but, disapproving Prussia's policy, Her Majesty's Government will maintain absolute neutrality. The letter adds that these sentiments are not only Her Majesty's, but those of all England.

The death is announced from Florence of the Deputy Carlo Poerio, whose long and cruel imprisonment in Naples had made his name well known to English readers. He was born in 1803, and was the son of an advocate of Naples. Up to 1848 he had been subject to constant arrests in consequence of his gratuitous defence of political prisoners, but in the latter year he was for a short time one of King Ferdinand's Ministers. The horrors of the dungeon in which he was subsequently imprisoned were forcibly described by Mr. Gladstone, who visited him. In 1859, he and other political offenders were placed on board a vessel for the United States, but the exiles compelled the captain to land them at Cork. During his stay in England, Poerio, by the virtues of his character, no less than by his misfortunes, made numerous and influential friends. In 1860 he was chosen member of the Turin Parliament, and he retained his position as deputy ever since. His health was known to have been much enfeebled by the harshness of his imprisonment.

A Berlin letter, referring to the state of public feeling at Berlin at the present moment, says:—"I was present at the Victoria Theatre at the first performance of *Utrillo*, a rather poor adaptation of the comic opera of *Les Amours du Diable*. The piece here is a sort of extravaganza, containing songs in which reference is made to topics of the day. Among the subjects touched on are the empty treasures of Austria, Luxemburg, and of the French, with the declaration relative to these last, that 'if they appear on the Rhine they would be treated in Sadowa fashion.' It, however, remarked that, although an allusion to the maintenance of Germanic rights in Luxemburg was received with enthusiasm, on the other hand the mention of the state of the Austrian finances, and the reference to France gave offence to the audience, and were hissed by the majority of the spectators; in other terms, the public applauded what was national, and condemned what was hostile to their neighbours. On the whole, it appears to me evident that, if the public mind is little disposed to accept the idea of the evacuation of Luxemburg the prospects of war is far from being popular."

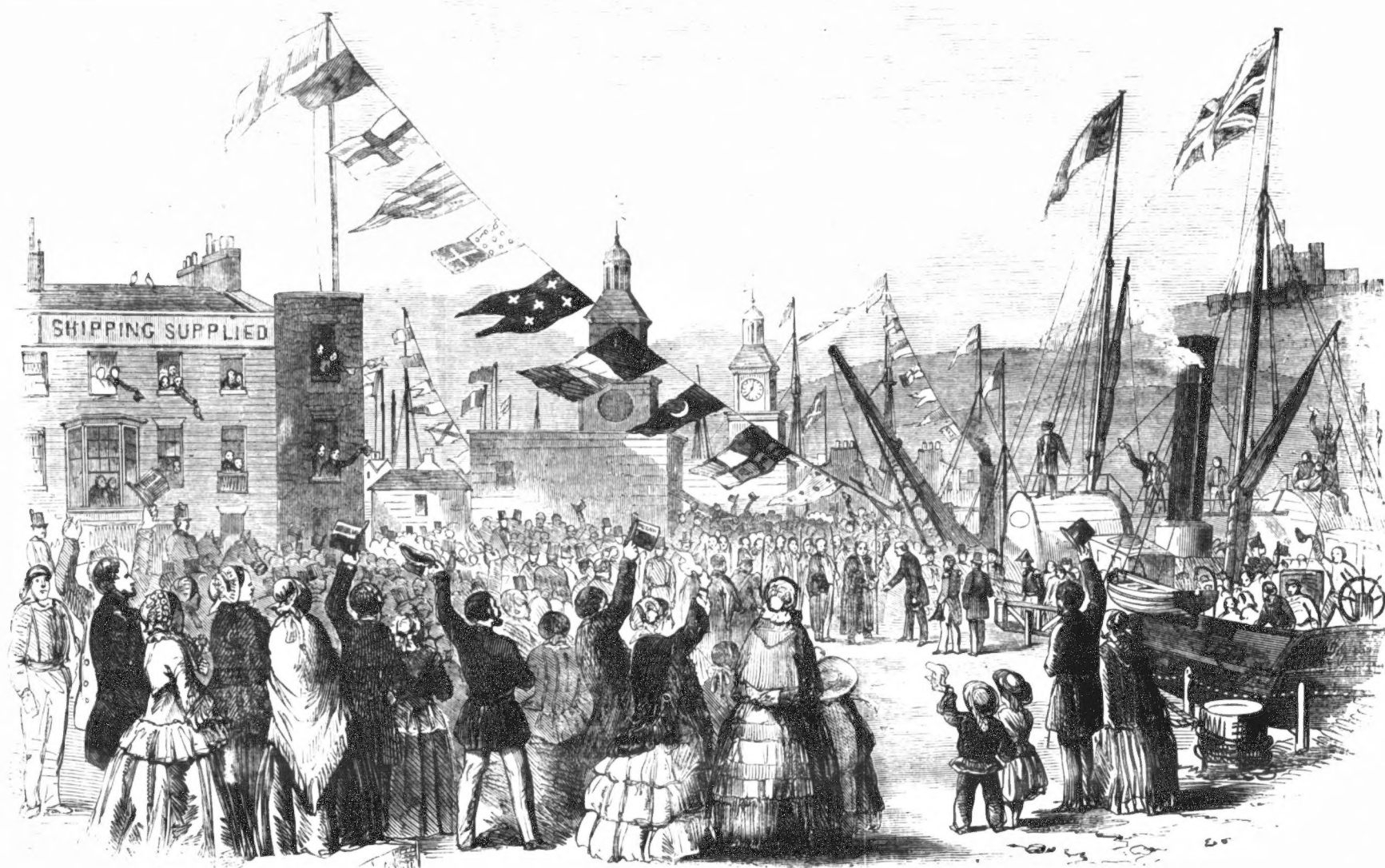
THE ITALIAN NAVY.—The Italian naval division in the waters of South America is about to be recalled, as a measure of economy. Two vessels only will be left in one of the stations of La Plata, where the Italian colonists are numerous and require protection.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT ON THE NEWCASTLE AND TYNEMOUTH LINE.

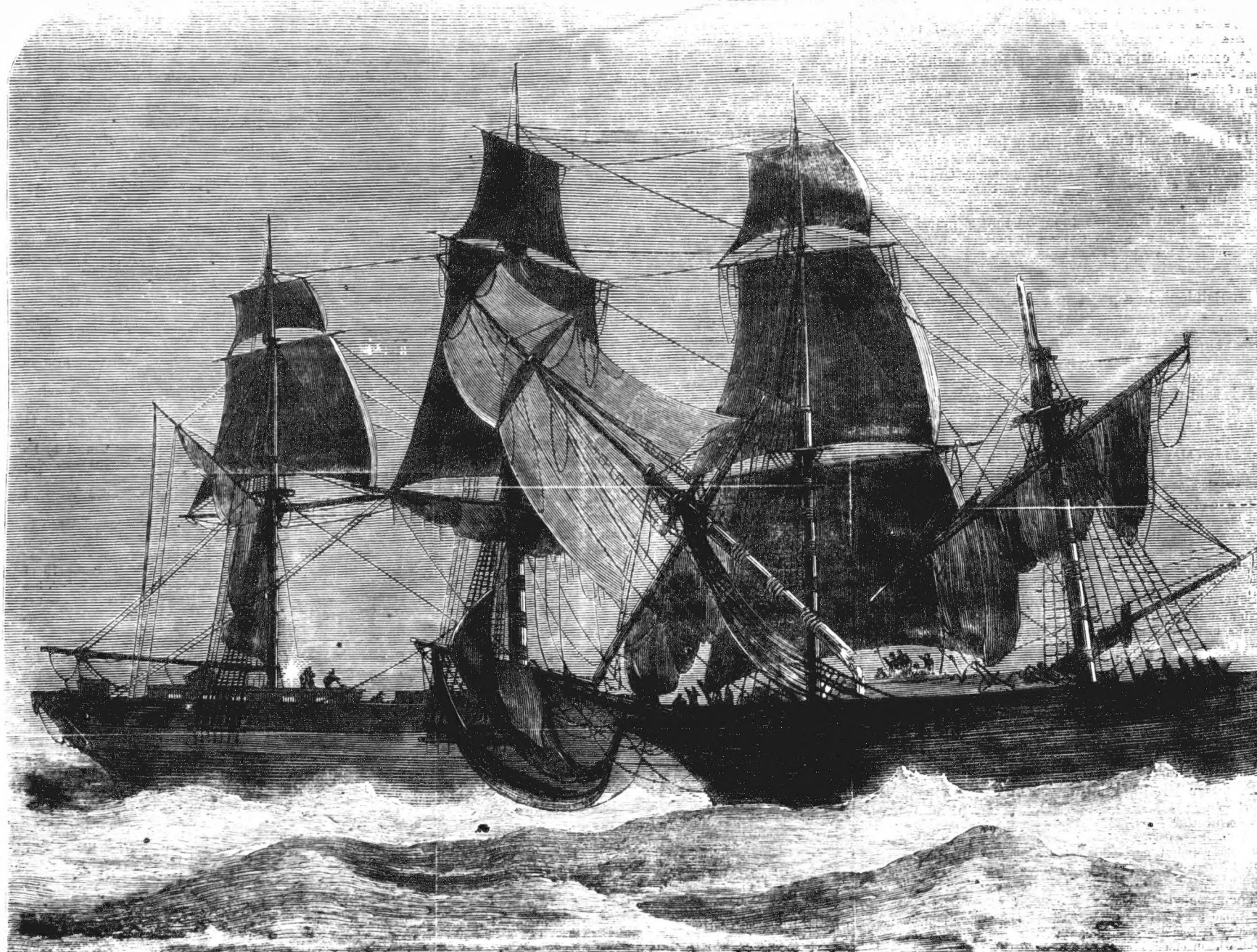
An accident, which resulted in serious injury to two unfortunate persons, occurred on the Tynemouth branch of the North-Eastern Railway on Saturday night last. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution intend to place at Blyth a new lifeboat, which has already been delivered there, and on Saturday night they were sending the old lifeboat to Linthouse to be repaired. The railway companies carry these craft free of charge, and the Blyth boat had been put on two trucks, and chained down in which condition it was delivered by the Blyth and Tynemouth Railway at the North-Eastern Railway Station, Percy Main. It was taken in there by the goods train from North Shields, which was conveying it and other merchandise between seven and eight o'clock on Saturday night to the Tynemouth Station at Newcastle. The goods train had attained a tolerably high rate of speed when it met the seven o'clock passenger train from Newcastle, heavily laden with passengers, running on the opposite, or down-line, at a tolerable pace; and, as they passed, there was a fearful smash among the third-class carriages, followed by much screaming and shouting amongst the passengers. When the passenger train reached the Howden station, it was found that the lifeboat, which must have slewed round, and must have likewise hung over the six feet way, had struck some of the third-class carriages about the centre, and had torn away the lamp-irons, and apparently part of some of the carriages. Many of the passengers had narrow escapes from the flying missiles, but two persons, a middle-aged woman and a little girl, were badly hit about the head, and they appeared to be in a dying state. The train was brought with all despatch to North Shields, and the two injured persons were removed to the first-class waiting room, and Dr. Scott, of North Shields, who, fortunately, happened to be in the train, promptly attended to them. A cab was got and the little girl was taken to her parents' house in Church-street, whilst the woman was removed to Dr. Scott's surgery in Howard-street. The woman, Ellen Smith, wife of a hawker, living in Hough-street, North Shields, had apparently been struck on the forehead with a piece of splintered wood, and was in a comatose state, in which she remained for two or three hours. Between nine and ten o'clock she had sufficiently recovered to be taken to her house under the care of Dr. Scott; but on Sunday she was very ill. She is suffering from slight concussion of the brain, with hysterical complications, but her case is not likely to prove fatal. The little girl's condition is the most serious. Her name is Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Knight, smith, who works at the pier works, and she is twelve years of age. Her parents lost two children by death a short time ago, and this poor little girl had only recently recovered from an attack of inflammation of the lungs. She had been sent up to Newcastle on an errand to her aunt by her mother, and was returning by herself when the accident took place. Her skull is badly fractured, apparently by a piece of one of the lamp-irons, and she was in a critical state most of Saturday night; but on Sunday Dr. Scott extracted some splinters of the skull from the wound and she appeared to be easier, although the case is still most critical. The boat appeared only to have struck two of the third-class carriages, first and second-class escaped without any injury; but if it had projected a little more over the 6th way, the consequences must have been frightful, as it would most likely have carried away the sides of the first and second-class carriages, and would have scattered death and destruction around. The girl Knight was sitting with her face to the engine, and was struck on the forehead by a piece of the lamp iron. She bled profusely, but Mr. Brown, of North Shields, who was close to her, wrapped her head up as best he could stop the hemorrhage.

GAS LIGHTING.—At the last monthly meeting of the Glasgow Architectural Society, Mr. W. Johnston, of that city, read a paper on "Gas Lighting," in which he stated that the people of London told rate the most clumsy and ill-fitted gas appliances in their shops and houses—gas so foul and coarse, street lamps of such imperfect construction as would not be tolerated in any third-rate town in Scotland. He argued, from calculations he laid before the meeting, and from the experience of Glasgow, that the London gas companies ought to be able to sell canal coal gas at 5s. 6d. per 1,000 cubic feet, of a quality two and a-half times better in illuminating power than that which they now supply at 4s. and 4s. 6d.—Dr. Frankland, in his lecture at the Royal Institution, on the 23rd of March, remarked on the bad quality of the gas supplied to London. He thought the public not fairly treated by the gas companies. Sixteen years ago he had examined the London gas, and now he found it to be considerably worse than it then was. Had there been no improvements in this direction since that time? Undoubtedly there had, and any invention that decreased the cost of manufacture was eagerly seized, but those relating to improving the quality were entirely ignored. To obtain the same amount of light in London as is obtained in Edinburgh it was necessary to burn twice as much gas, to put up with twice as much heat caused by its combustion, and to inhale ten times as much sulphurous acid. No gas ought to be considered good enough for use which did not give a light equal to twenty standard candles when burning five cubic feet per hour.

A CURIOUS RELIC.—From a new book entitled "Social Life in Former Days" we extract the following letter from Lady Jean Gordon to her cousin, Sir Ludovick Gordon, which shows that love-making was a very serious matter in those times:—"The 19 of June, 1657. Dear Cousin—Tis a gentleman, the bearer hereof, has been at me, making offer of himself and fortune to me; and I, not being wholly at my own disposing, have sent him to speak my father, and brother, and yourself and Skibo, with any other friends you think fit to help, thereby, hoping you will see to my good in it. His offer, as he says, is five thousand mark a year, and he offers me the best for my cousin, which I think is very fair, considering the chances on I am in, for it is good taking a good occasion whilst offered. He does profess a great deal of love to me; for my own part I could not my life with the man for he seems to be a very deserving gentleman, and one I hope of a good disposition, and anything he has is true. So that, cousin, when ye have met with the rest of the friends thereat, and tryd how much ye can see fit to lend for my good, then, accordingly I expect, ye will be my friend and his both, for he intends to put it to a point as soon as possibly can be, and if ye that are friends as concerned in his good, to speak any of my friends there, I believe he will oblige you, having this business, cousin, upon you to be finished as ye see fit for my good, which shall, for all your favours, I am to assure you, be as soon as I can be one of your most obedient ending, to serve you. JEAN GORDON."—One cannot but pity the sister who had to undergo the ordeal of a proval by a council of the whole of the family relations. It is generally considered a proper, and a business-like way to have to call upon a young lady's friends to decide on her future, but to be examined by half-a-dozen of the relatives must have been a ceremony which would have deterred all but the most strong-minded from entering upon a matrimonial engagement.



THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW—FIRST ARRIVAL OF CONTINENTAL VISITORS AT DOVER. (See Page 197.)



FATAL COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL BETWEEN THE EMILE GUSTAVE AND THE GRECIAN. (See Page 197.)



RUSSIAN AND CIRCASSIAN OFFICERS.

Provincial Items.

An agreement was signed between the master tailors and the workmen at Sheffield, which brings the strike there to a termination. The working hours in future are to be from six a.m. to six p.m. in the summer, and from seven a.m. to seven p.m. in winter. Work to cease and wages to be paid at five o'clock on Saturdays. Work during meal times to be paid for, unless it be through the neglect of the men.

A despondent feeling continues to weigh heavily on the Halifax Wool and Worsted Market. Wool has now fallen considerably in value, and there are as yet no indications that the bottom figure has been reached. There is little or no demand. The dread of a war between France and Prussia is still felt. Yarns are much lower in price, and many spinners are making to stock. It is believed that if in the course of the next two weeks an improvement does not set in, many large houses will have to go on short time. From both Germany and America there is very little inquiry for pieces.

A turn-out worthy the attention of the Trades' Union Commission has lately taken place at the Roundwood Colliery near Wakefield. It seems that it is the custom of the colliers at this pit to get only a certain number of corves of coal a day, and also not to leave the pit until after one o'clock. A few days ago one of the men filled a corve more than the stipulated quantity, and another man, having got the required number, went away an hour before the recognised time. A deputation from the men waited upon the masters, and demanded the instant dismissal of the two recalcitrants; and upon receiving a refusal, the whole of the colliers employed at the pit turned out. The matter is to be made the subject of magisterial investigation.

The Manchester General Omnibus Company are engaged in solving a very knotty problem, "How to save £8,000 a-year?" They have recently been prosecuting guards for not paying over the receipts from passengers. The prosecutions have not been very satisfactory, but they have brought about confessions and declarations from employes who have shared in the plunder which have fairly startled them. For instance, a driver has confessed that for years past the guards have handed him over 4s. per day as his share of the embezzled fares. A man on the Guards and Drivers' Club sick list having had his allowance stopped, has written to make a similar confession of past participation in rascality. The manager estimates that £8,000 a year has thus failed to reach the hands of the company. At a meeting last week the company divided 10 per cent., but the dividend would have been multiplied manifold but for this system of black-mail. Mr. Heyworth, the manager, has invented a simple but ingenious method of giving torn tickets from an endless roll, inserted in a revolving case with progressive numbers, which may do much to check such frauds, if it does not entirely cure the evil.

THE ATTEMPTED MURDER AT COVENTRY.

Thomas Baker was again brought up before the county bench at the Shire Hall, (Friday), charged with attempting to murder Henrietta Westley, by shooting her, on the 8th instant. Mr. Dewes, jun., prosecuted; and Mr. Griffin defended the prisoner. The young woman was present, and stated that on the 8th inst. she was at home, and the prisoner called for her at about 9 a.m., and asked her to go for a walk. They went out to Pickering's liquor shop in High-street, when Baker treated her to a glass of gin, he having whisky. They then went away towards the Catholic Church, then passed on to a hovel, and on leaving that they went to Green's public-house. After having partaken of some refreshments at Green's she felt unwell, and laid her head on his shoulder, and she then immediately felt what she thought was a blow from the prisoner's fist. She fell to the ground, and for some time was insensible. When she came to herself the prisoner had gone down the lane, and she called out to him and he came back, and took her to a house. On the previous Saturday night prisoner had told her that he would be hanged for her, and from something else that was said it would seem that the prisoner was jealous of the prosecutrix. The prisoner had promised to marry her, and the wedding was to have taken place on the 8th. She had had a child by the prisoner. George Yateman, labourer, saw the prisoner and Westley, and heard the report of a pistol, and afterwards saw the prisoner walking away. He heard a cry, and on walking along the lane afterwards saw some blood on the ground. Mr. Baker, the keeper of the Coventry lock-up, stated that on the day named Police-constable Tomkins brought the prisoner and Westley there. The former was very excited and he the latter was covered with blood. Westley said she believed the prisoner had struck her, and afterwards that he had shot her. She spat some blood and a tooth out of her mouth, and he then sent her to the hospital and locked prisoner up. A man had to be with him all night, he was so excited. The next morning he asked "How is she (meaning Westley); will she get over it?" Witness replied that he could not say. Baker replied "She's shot in the head with a bullet." The prisoner further said that they had been drinking, and afterwards, in the lane, he said "Here, I'll shoot you," and she said "Do it," and prisoner then told Baker that he must have done it at the time. His hand was swollen and burnt, apparently with powder. Thomas Askey, general dealer, proved selling to the prisoner the pistol and some bullets. He identified the pistol which had been produced, and which had been found on the prisoner, as the one he had sold to the prisoner. Dr. Anderson said that Westley had been, and was still, an inmate of the hospital. She was suffering from a wound such as the bullet produced would make. She was also suffering from the shock. The right jaw-bone was broken close to the angle, and the whole of the back teeth on the left side were knocked out. He was certain a bullet had entered, and it might have gone down the throat. The prisoner, on being charged, said, "I never intended to shoot her." He was then committed to take his trial at the next Warwick Assizes. Bail was refused.

FATAL COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.

The *Emile Gustave*, 214 tons, flour-laden, Ahlstrom, master, from Rouen to Liverpool, has just put into Brixham, having been in collision with the *Grecian*, of Dundee, 272 tons, coal-laden, Jarvis, master. On Monday week, when about twelve miles off Start Point, the night being very dark and foggy, the *Emile Gustave* came into collision with the *Grecian*, a portion of whose crew, thinking in the darkness of the night that their vessel was going down, jumped on to the other ship. In the confusion a man, named James Robinson, fell over the side, and was drowned. The *Emile* has lost bowsprit, cutwater, and jibboom, and has sustained other damage. The *Grecian* is reported to have arrived at Portsmouth.

DOUBTFUL CONTRABANDISTS.

The picture on our front page is one of those clever little works which tells its own story at a glance. About to cross the Prussian frontiers, the German bullock-driver has with him what is evidently his pretty wife and child, and she, by her merry laugh and bright glances, appears to be wishing to beguile the officers from a too close search of her husband's team and vehicle. One of the officers has already discovered a large bottle, containing evidently something stronger than water, while the other officer is thrusting his sword within the bales of goods to discover some other forbidden commodity. How it will stand we can only judge from the countenances of the principal figures.

RUSSIAN AND CIRCASSIAN OFFICERS.

The group of Russian and Circassian officers given above represents the type of countenance of those two formerly antagonistic races, now united under the Russian rule. At present they are at peace, although we have "rumours of war" looming in the horizon.

IMPROVEMENTS ON EPSOM RACE-COURSE.—Mr. Briscoe, M. P., Lord of the Manor of Epsom, has consented that a piece of ground adjoining the Grand Stand shall be enclosed for the purpose of making an unsaddling paddock, so that the winner and the second and third horses for the Derby, and other races, in returning to weigh may be relieved from the crush and pressure of the crowd on the course. The office for the Clerk of the Course, weighing and telegraph departments, reporters' and jockeys' rooms, &c., will be erected in the new enclosure. Owners of horses, trainers, and other persons having business at Epsom, will appreciate Mr. Briscoe's concession, as the old offices were dark and gloomy, and not in accordance with the other arrangements of the meeting. Mr. Heathcote, also, has given permission for the erection of ten loose boxes or sheds in his paddock for the better accommodation of saddling in wet and windy weather. It is proposed that the whole of the improvements shall be available for the Derby week by putting up temporary buildings.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

ANNIVERSARIES		H. W. L. D.	
D.	W.	A.M.	P.M.
2	S	2 24	2 42
3	M	3 10	3 39
4	T	4 31	4 16
5	W	5 40	5 4
6	Tu	6 39	6 55
7	F	7 21	7 53
8	S	8 25	8 58

Moon's changes.....First Quarter, 10th day, 10h 4m. p.m.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.—All letters to be addressed to the Editor, Penny House, Drury-court, St. Mary-le-Strand, London.

* Correspondents finding their questions unanswered will understand that we are unable to do so, either from their obscurity, or that our correspondents with little trouble could readily obtain the information themselves.

MEDICAL GALVANISM is now recognised as one of the most useful adjuncts to the science of Medicine, and is becoming more used by the medical profession than any other new invention for the relief or cure of disease, especially as in most cases it obviates the use of medicines. As it is impossible to answer the numerous correspondents who have inquired respecting the proper apparatus to be used and the diseases for which Medical Galvanism is most useful, we have great pleasure in mentioning Mr. Faulkner, Surgeon, Medical Galvanist, of 40, Endell-street, Bloomsbury, and 12, Roseberry-villa, as one who will give any information on the subject; also, has a large number of Medical Galvanic Apparatus by various makers.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1867.

REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

It should be the policy of rulers, as well as of men, that if discovering an inability to do that which is best, it is wise to do that which is next best. The Emperor of the French has exemplified this maxim in a wonderful degree, and has more than once shown how able he is to bend to the storm. Many, failing to have their own original way, vainly fight against fate, and in obstinately trying to command events, only demonstrate what feeble creatures they are, and how, after all, they are but the unwilling slaves of invulnerable circumstances. Napoleon has, within the last few years, attempted to do the best, but has on several occasions signally failed; he has, though not been entirely discomfited, because he has readily accepted another position, which, though not always quite dignified, has given proof that he has not lost discretion, or that abounding adaptability which in itself is a tint of genius. To remember, especially, the German quarrel is but to recall how the potentate of France was vanquished in diplomacy, if not in arms, last year, and how, though he talked at Auxerre—where he said that the frontiers of France must be rectified in the event of the balance of power being disturbed, Prussia frustrated his plans and hopes. Since the time of Waterloo Prussia has never been held in great affection by France, and, while England has been forming ties of amity with the latter, the former has appeared to recede still further into the region of cold sympathies. That Denmark, then, should raise Prussia from a second-rate position into one of magnificence and giant proportion, and give her the domination of Germany, was a source of no little chagrin to the French people. In support of this fact the discussion in the Legislative Chambers, coupled with the exhibition of feeling on the part of all classes of the community in Paris and elsewhere, are in themselves infallible proofs, and also of the antagonism existing in the French mind to the glory of the Prussian monarchy. Napoleon had suggested, after the completion of the Prussian successes, that France should be reconciled to the new state of things by an addition of French territory; but this suggestion was unheeded, and the Emperor evidently failed to accomplish his ends. The action taken by Prussia having broken up the old German Confederation, Napoleon at once set to work to discover how his object might be obtained. Luxemburg was no longer a part of Germany under the altered state of things. The King of Holland was its Grand Duke, and ostensible ruler on the one hand, while its fortress was manned by Prussian soldiers. Under the compact of '39 this arrangement was quite correct, but its correctness was nevertheless invalidated by the fact that the whole scheme of the Confederation of that date was put an end to last year. Amidst the subtleties of state craft it is impossible to know what has exactly taken place, but it is made known that the King of Holland, as the Grand Duke of Luxemburg, has specified his willingness to sell his dukedom to France, while the French Government has shown the greatest alacrity in its desire to close the bargain. The time when princes could barter away their provinces, has, fortunately as respects Europe, quite passed away, and it, therefore, was in some measure premature that the Emperor should have so abruptly made known his intentions to Prussia, and requested that possession might be entered upon by France. The dignity of a nation swollen with military honour was evidently not to be so treated, and inasmuch as Prussia has virtually Luxemburg in possession, it was hardly to be expected that Bismarck should quietly acquiesce in the plans of the Ruler of France. During the procedure of the diplomatic operations Prussia has become no less valorous, and the people of France have shown no greater friendliness for their neighbours. The Emperor was evidently outwitted by Bismarck, and the French nation in measure dwarfed by the relative late growth of Prussia; and the consequence of all this humiliation is that our friends on the other side of the channel have grown daily more inflamed. They have suddenly discovered that Luxemburg, when armed by Prussia, is a standing menace to France, and that therefore they ought to be allowed to make the desired purchase, and settle the matter tending to the dignity and honour of their State. The late popularity and present power of Bismarck is derived from the fact that he has added to the Prussian territory, and that he has been able to out-

manoeuvre and discomfit him who but a little time ago was called the Dictator of Europe. Dictators are not vacillating; and since the battle of Sadowa Napoleon has shown himself in all kinds of the most uncertain moods. All the glory, all the advancement, all the successes of France being ascribed to his rule, he is, unfortunately, compelled to take upon himself all the onus of disasters, whether in arms or diplomacy. In Mexico his troops were compelled to withdraw; and in Prussia his purposes in negotiation have failed. Once upon a time the foremost man in Europe, whether by right or might, by cunning or sagacity, by caution or boldness, or the whole happily commingled, was Napoleon III. He has seen the position gradually slipping from his hands, and he has nervously attempted to retain it. No one would have thought of Luxemburg had he not first aroused public attention to its existence. He is often wanting to do something for honour and glory, and then, having taken the lead, he is compelled to change his front, and take his stand on a different ground. It requires a good general to even do this, though the chief who makes no false step may be considered the abler tactician. When the emperor took up his original position as to this dukedom, what could he have contemplated? He must have little understood German sentiment, or that of his own nation, had he not either proposed to precipitate war, or have his proposals rejected.

There will be no war, at least for the present. The two powers having agreed to allow the question to be discussed by a conference, to be held in London. The basis of this discussion will be that Luxemburg is to be neutral and that its neutrality is to be guaranteed by the great Powers. By this means the two countries will retain their dignity, and a war that appeared so imminent but a few days ago will be arrested, or at least postponed. Unfortunately for the peace of Europe, it is impossible to know what conjuncture may arise under the Napoleonic rule. A dynasty that is not an hereditary one requires for its perpetuation so many extraneous aids to give it age and durability, that it is impossible to know what Napoleon may not do for the purpose of cementing his position and that of his throne. To avert discontent at home war may be necessary, and if so, the Emperor of the French will not be prepared to hang back from the fight.

The most curious circumstance in all this business is the very quiet way the neutral powers seem to take the whole affair. Certainly the funds and the shares have been slightly affected by it, but men's minds or hearts have been little moved. A war between France and Germany would have been a most terrible calamity for all Europe. At the present moment the interests of England and France are so closely allied that a confusion to one would have been a loss to the other. The frightful bloodshed, the stupendous misery, and unlimited suffering may, by anticipation, be of little account. Germany has nothing to gain this instant by war, and Napoleon knows perfectly well that only by a long and great struggle could he hope to achieve victory. Defeat, though, might be his, and then, what next? A shattered throne, a declining star sinking rapidly beneath disaster, and his child only the heir to barren honours, with robes of any colour but that of "the purple."

Notes on Current Topics.

We never heard of the existence of the Canoe Club till Saturday last, when its members took an outing at Thames Ditton, and created quite a sensation. The objects of the Club, are to improve canoeing, promote canoeing, and unite canoeists, by arranging and recording canoe voyages, and by encouraging paddling and sailing, and racing and chasing in canoes over land and water. There are between sixty and seventy members in the club, of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is Commodore. Each member on election is required by the rules of the club to send to the mate a minute description of his canoe, and a photograph of himself for insertion in the Canoe Club Album. There are several meetings for exercises and races in the course of the year; and it is the intention of the club to be present at the Paris Regatta in June.

The question of female labour as applicable to tailoring was discussed, to a certain extent, at a meeting held this week in London. The tailoresses, as well as the tailors, of the City had been invited to attend it, in order to express their sympathy with the men now on strike at the West End. A tolerable number did attend, and a considerable amount of enthusiasm for the cause was displayed by them. If the present movement brings about an improvement in the condition of the women who live by tailoring, it will certainly have produced at least one good result. Those who work the slop shops generally gain so little, however constant may be their toil, that their life is merely a painful struggle for existence, in wretched rooms, in each of which a whole family lives in low damp, and often fever-tainted dens, clothes are made up at so low a rate of payment that a woman who works from early morn till late at night can scarcely make enough to keep herself from starving.

In the Exhibition of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, just open, there is a beautiful drawing by Mlle. Rosa Bonheur, entitled "The Ferry Boat." Upon a brilliantly clear day, across a broad Highland loch, pleasantly rippled by a light breeze, a cargo of young lambs closely packed, under the charge of a Highland shepherd, are being borne from shore to shore. The wavelets of the loch mirror and intensify the lustrous blue of the sky. The sun gleams brightly upon the boat and its burthen, playing upon the soft white fleeces of the lambs, and toiling with crimson their transparent ears. In the distance lie couched a waving line of purple mountains. The green shadows of the boat on the waters mingle delightfully with the clear blue where nothing hinders their reflection of the spotless sky above. The picture is one of great beauty, painted in a higher key of colour than is to be found in the same artist's works of oil, in which sometimes lowness of tone takes a form almost of exaggeration. Yet the brilliance of the present work is arrived at by no sacrifice of fidelity to nature.

Men are always grumbling about crinoline, and the Rev. Mr. Capel has no doubt had many sympathisers in his recent sufferings from an outrageously distended petticoat; but it has been reserved for a lady to attempt to give it, in her own neighbourhood at least, a coup de grace. Miss Lloyd, a lady having property in Wales, has given her tenants a notice to quit unless their wives' daughters give up their crinolines. These erring damsels have, as she informs them, "abandoned the old, homely, comfortable Welsh style," and betaken themselves to the pumps and vanities of modern dress. For this their unfortunate relatives, who, it seems, are respectable fathers, are to suffer. Miss Lloyd objects to garments that in any way expose what Byron called the "twinkling fet so small and sylph-like," and to her *cracquet* must be an utter abomination; but in advocating the "homely Welsh style," she ought at least to have indicated the period to which her remarks referred. It is possible to go back to a Welsh style of such exceeding homeliness, that it would resemble the proverbial full dress in the Sandwich Islands, and Miss Menken would set the fashions.

Professor Blackie in his recent lecturing delivered at Manchester, on "Forms of Government," was rather severe on the member for Birmingham. Here is a specimen:—Tiberius Gracchus, who was an agitator on the question of the agrarian laws in the year 133 B.C., was the John Bright of that time; but he came to a violent death in consequence of his agitation—a fate which would never befall Mr. Bright. Democracy, even in the mitigated form in which it existed in England, was the necessary begetter of moral corruption. It almost always created bribery and faction; and it produced a race of flatterers and demagogues who fed upon the passions of the people. In so far as democracy gave popular energy that was all well; in so far as it divided the people into factions worked by selfish motives, and set the smoothest tongues and most unscrupulous people to work upon the most worthless, ignorant, vile, venal, and imbruted part of the community, he did not love it, but he detested it, and would have nothing to do with it. It was a universal fact in history that the greatest despots—such as Dionysius of Syracuse, Julius Cæsar, and the Great Napoleon—commenced as champions of the people. They always declaimed against a bloated aristocracy. In his (Professor Blackie's) belief, the best of all constitutions of ancient or modern times was our glorious British Constitution. It was glorious because it had retained all the three old Homeric elements of government. It had rejected none; and hitherto it had temperately, wisely, and prosperously used all the three. It comprised the consistency and the loyal grace of monarchy, the order and the permanence which are the virtues of aristocracy, and the enterprise, the pluck, and the propulsive power which belong to democracy.

Some stir has been made lately about the claims of Colonel Richards to be the originator of the volunteer movement in this country, and it is proposed to present him with a testimonial in acknowledgment of them. The fact of the matter is that no one man has a shadow of a claim to be considered the sole originator of the volunteer movement. There are men now serving in our modern volunteers who had only to take down the arms they shouldered in the days of our grandfathers, when we expected a French invasion. Volunteering is no new idea, and the great movement which has received new life in our time was the out-come of the general desire of the people of England to compensate for our want of a vast standing army by a reserve force of citizens. That force is to be preserved in its present flourishing condition by attention to the welfare of its members, and to drill; and no volunteer officer does wisely who idly lays claim to a distinction, his right to which cannot possibly exist.

The recent conferences of the cabmasters and cabdrivers, and their efforts to improve their condition may, we hope, bring before the Legislature the question of the taxation of all vehicles plying throughout the country for hire. The gain to the revenue of such a tax is, we believe, something under £150,000, for which we sacrifice comfort, time, and even health. That immense class of the population which reaches from the very poorest up to those whose wealth permits them not only to keep carriages at home, but to have carriages to meet them at every railway station, town, and village they may chance to visit—that class which, in point of fact, constitutes the mass of the nation—is interested in no common degree in the multiplication of vehicles to be obtained at moderate hire wherever they can be needed, and if the cabowners will but consult the public convenience they will not want for support in their agitation.

A Mr. Martin, who dates from Kilbroney, Rostrevor, writes to the *Nation*, a journal which sympathises with the objects of the Fenians, but not with their tactics, a letter, in which he says:—"The continued emigration from Ireland of the young and energetic will keep up the sentiment and purpose of Fenianism in America. And the Irish there, being under the protection of a power which England cannot control, cannot be reached by special commissions. The suspension of the Habeas Corpus, therefore, must for the future be permanent in Ireland—while the Union lasts. But the Habeas Corpus is the British constitution. And what sort of United Kingdom are we to appear before the world, when the constitution, which is never suspended in England or Scotland, is permanently suspended in Ireland? It will be manifest then to all the world what sort of 'United Kingdom' it is to which Ireland belongs." Mr. Martin appears to forget that the "United Kingdom" does not profess to include the United States of America, and but for American adventurers and their Irish paid agents, there would be no Fenianism in Ireland.

The irrepressible Alexander Dumas is at present plaintiff in a suit before a French law court to arrest the sale of a photographic picture in which he is represented attitudinising variously with Miss Menken, the lady whose photographic portrait (in a state of semi-nudity) may be seen in many of the London shop windows. The pictures about which the litigation has arisen and in which the veteran French celebrity and the more newly-sprung notoriety across the Atlantic are embracing, as well as embraced, within the focus of the lens, figure in every shop-front in Paris where photographs are sold, and the press has been busy with its censures upon these unmistakable evidences of a flirtation between the old French author and the young American actress—deeming that, as a character in Mr. Boucicault's *Octoroon* says, "the apparatus can't err." The pleadings have been opened, and M. Dumas' counsel explains that his client had been applied to for a piece in which Miss Menken should appear as a brother and sister, and such a piece, founded on Sir Walter Scott's "Monastery," had been begun. Meanwhile Miss Menken has her portrait taken by photography, and the artist, knowing the relations between the actress and the author, writes the latter to come and be taken with his future heroine. Dumas, in all the innocence of his heart, came, and being in the studio, lent himself to the production of various play-

ful groups for the mere private satisfaction of all concerned, as he imagined, and not with the object of furnishing the photographer with a quantity of piquant material to dispose of for his own profit—though this is the photographer's plea.

OUR OPERA GLASS.

DRURY LANE.—Mr. Andrew Halliday, in *The Great City*, has given us a play which may be fairly characterised as the equivalent in the drama for one of the worst style of tales that appear now and again in the *London Journal* and other periodicals of that class. In construction, in improbability, and in the general turning up of the different characters, at the moment they are most required to carry on the story, but when in all human probability they would be the least likely to appear, the new drama rivals the wildest of them all. Indeed it seems impossible to criticise it otherwise than as a vehicle to connect the elaborate and realistic scenery of Mr. Beverley, who in Waterloo Bridge, in The Jolly Beggars' Club, in London by Night, and in The Railway Station shows us the marvellous effect of artistic scene painting, and skilful stage carpentry. One or two of his sets, however, equally ambitious, such as a "Drawing-room in Edith's House," and the "Board-room" a by no means so successful; and there are several more carpenter's scenes entirely unworthy of the elaboration of the rest of the piece. Two of the most amusing scenes, the "Gates of the Workhouse" and the "Board-room," are not in reality connected with the plot at all, and are lugged in while the action of the drama stands still, apparently to show that the author can, when he chooses, travel out of the improbable and melodramatic style he has closely adhered to in the remainder of his work. The concluding scene, by no means a legitimate climax, is introduced for the purpose of winning a spurious applause by representing on a large scale a graphic *tableau vivant* of Frith's well-known "Railway Station." In fact, the whole piece, possibly creditable to the Surrey, is altogether far beneath the dignity of Old Drury Lane. The plot of this piece as a plot, is improbable and totally untrue to life, while the action of one or two of the leading characters, and notably of the heroine, is a tissue of absurdity throughout. A young girl who comes to town to seek a situation as governess, who goes to sup at the Chapter Coffee-house with the first stranger she meets at the station, who then drives about with him in a hansom late at night to seek out some solicitor who is to assist her in getting her place she desires; who then, coming mysteriously into a fortune, gives dashing parties, without the aid of any *chaperone*, in the largest and most vulgarly-appointed house in Belgravia, to all the young lords and men about town she meets with; who, on hearing that her mysterious benefactor, a returned convict, is in danger of being handed over to the police, starts late at night, without a bonnet, and with nothing to cover her ball dress but a light opera cloak, to go on foot to one of the lowest shams in London, of the locality of which she is entirely ignorant; and who, when she has in some mysterious way found it, suffers her half-drunken benefactor, at the same time her father, and a convict, to unveil her to the unhallowed gaze of the lowest scoundrels and cut-throats in London; a young girl who does all this must be considered the extreme of eccentricity, and certainly can lay no claim to be regarded as a type of any possible species of young ladyism. Edith Fairbairn (Miss Madge Robertson) knows nothing of her origin, and has had her boarding-school bills paid for by a London solicitor. These payments having suddenly stopped, she is forced to leave the school and come to town to seek a situation. At the station one Arthur Carrington (Mr. C. Harcourt), her lover, was to have met her; but as, when the train comes in, unable to resist the cravings of his appetite he is absent drinking at some tavern in the neighbourhood, she falls into the hands of Arthur Blount (Mr. J. E. Cowper) the villain of the piece, an M.P., and a speculative adventurer. Carrington, having returned when it is too late, afterwards recognises Edith driving over Waterloo-bridge in a cab with Blount. Being apparently a young gentleman with a head as weak as his stomach, this drives him to attempt suicide, from which he is saved by a returned convict, Mogg (Mr. McIntyre), the father and unknown benefactor of Edith, who recognises in him the nephew of the merchant in whose service he was formerly porter, and where Blount was head clerk. We next find that Edith has come into a fortune. Blount, whose first intention was to seduce her, now proposes marriage to her; she has seen through his designs, and rejects him. Blount, who has overheard Mogg reveal to Edith that he is her father, and who knows him to be a returned convict, threatens to give him up to the police if Edith still refuses to marry him. She takes a day to consider, and, in the meantime, starts out in the extraordinary way we have alluded to. Mogg, who, though he has plenty of money, having made a fortune in Australia, in some unexplained way, and who, we are left to suppose, has escaped and returned home before he has served his time, still adheres to the low habits and mode of life he has been so long accustomed to, confides in his cups to the "Bos" of the crib he frequents, how in former years he detected Blount in the forgery of his master's will, and that he still has the real will hidden away in a garret. Mendez, a Jew, (Mr. Villiers) overhears him, and tells Blount, in part of whose schemes he is a partner. Blount appoints a meeting in the garret for the evening, and tells Mendez to bring a couple of policemen with him. Here are two absurdities. Blount, conscious of his guilt, would, although he believes the proofs are destroyed, certainly go, at once and alone, to sit the truth of Mogg's statement. Instead of this, he makes a rendezvous for several hours later with his Jew friend, and, into the bargain, tells him to bring policemen with him. The presence of the police is, of course, necessary to the subsequent pursuit of Mogg over the house-tops, but it is most clumsily and inartistically managed. Just after the appointment has been made, Mendez learns that his daughter, who has never been even mentioned in the course of the piece, has been carried off by Blount, and resolves upon revenge. This is again a most transparent and weak device. For the continuance of the plot it is necessary to make Mendez turn upon Blount; and so the seduction of his daughter, whom the audience have never heard of, is interpolated in this glaring and absurd manner. It is one of the most unblushing pieces of *playerism*—to coin a word—that we have ever met with. Mendez arrives first at the garret, and takes the will in order to prove Blount a forger, Mogg comes next, finds it gone, hears steps on the stairs and escapes through the window. Blount comes in with the police, also finds the will gone, and pursues Mogg, whom he thinks has taken it, across the house tops. The latter tries to escape by letting himself down by the telegraph wires. Blount cuts the wires hoping to kill Mogg, and thus destroy the evidence of his guilt. In the last act, we see Mogg dying in Edith's house, Blount arrives and denounces him to the police, but just as he is triumphing over the absence of any proof of what Carrington, who is reconciled to Edith, alleges against him, Mendez enters with the will. Blount leaves,

Mendez goes to get a warrant, determined to hunt him to the death, and the dying Mogg entreats Carrington to take Edith down to the little village where she was born, and marry her at once. To please the dying man they agree to do so, and the scene shifts to a railway station. The bridal party is seen on the platform, and Blount, tracked by Mendez, who has obtained a warrant for his arrest, enters, half disguised by a heavy cloak, and takes his seat in one of the carriages. Just as the train is starting, and he is dithering himself that he is safe, the detectives enter with Mendez and arrest him. The bridal party look on all the people on the stage assume a fixed pose, and the curtain falls on a realisation of Frith's well-known painting.

ROYAL CREMORNE GARDENS.—This highly-popular resort will be opened on Monday next, which Mr. Smith advertises as the commencement of the season. For some weeks past a large staff of workmen have been repairing injury done by the inclement weather of the winter and the previous season, and altering several of the bars to meet the pressure of business on great fête nights. The floral portions of the grounds, always objects of admiration, will this year be more than usually beautiful, as the lessee, at the close of last season, permitted the head gardener, Mr. King, to increase the number of his forcing-houses, the good judgment of which will be shown in an early and splendid display. Among the things specially enjoyed, and talked of by foreigners in reference to Cremorne, have been its *tables d'hôte*. Hitherto they have been given only weekly, in future they will be prepared daily at half-past seven, with the same liberality and comfort. The ever-efficient Mr. Tully presides in the orchestra. Chorus and a party of Celestians are to appear in one of the theatres; a burlesque is to be placed on the stage in the ballet-room, and several novelties are spoken of. We hope Mr. Smith will be favoured with fine weather. Should he be, there can be little doubt of his future success.

THEATRICAL TATTLE.

Mr. Jules Benedict has been elected to the vacant conductorship of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society.

Mr. James Anderson, the popular tragedian, is engaged to visit Australia. He sails from London in a few days, and will probably be absent for a twelvemonth.

Mr. John Lester Wallack, a son of the late Mr. James Wallack, who is much esteemed as an actor and manager in America, will visit this country in May next.

Madlle. Nilsson is engaged at the opera for November next, at 7,000 francs a month. She will make her first appearance as Ophelia in M. Ambrose Thomas's *Hamlet*. This information may be relied upon.

M. Faure is to play the part of *Hamlet* to Madlle Nilsson's Ophelia at the opera. M. Ambrose Thomas has written this part afresh to suit the voice of this eminent singer.

Offenbach's *Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein* is in active rehearsal at Liege. The piece is full of wit, brilliance, and wickedness. Which of our managers will first seize it?

Midsummer Night's Dream has been produced at the New Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, Mr. Phelps giving his famous impersonation of Bottom. Puck has been very well played by Miss Julia St. George.

Mr. J. L. Toole is at present performing at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool. He appeared on Easter Monday before an immense audience, playing in three of his favourite pieces: *Ici on Parle Français*, *The Pretty Horse-breaker*, and *The Harvest Home*, receiving the reception that never fails to attend him.

At a *conversazione* and subsequently at a public rehearsal of the first concert for the season of the New Philharmonic Society, Dr. Wyld gave his friends and supporters an opportunity of adjudging the acoustic and other merits of the new hall in Langham-place, Regent-street, which has been built under his superintendence and which he has christened St. George's-hall. The *conversazione* taking place in the evening, the hall, of course, was lighted up. We shall be able to offer an opinion of its claims to consideration as a music-room at the concert for which Saturday's performance was a rehearsal.

A most fashionably-attired lady hailed the conductor of an omnibus the other day. He stopped. The lady in question mounted the step. Just as she was entering, the horse moved on. The lady fell backwards into a delicious pool of London mud. A gentleman in the corner was asked why he did not put out his arm to save her. His reply was, "Because I am not desirous of being given into custody for an indecent assault." His justification was perfect, as things go. But that things should go thus, is a disgrace to the present generation.

The fight between Wormald and O'Baldwin, for £400 and the belt, was to have come off the other morning, but did not. A special train was prepared to start from the South-Eastern Railway Station at London-bridge, and did start. Wormald went down by it, after a very narrow escape from the police. His antagonist, however, after driving up to the station, had his horses turned in another direction, and it was understood that he was to join the special somewhere down the line. This, however—either from accident or intentionally—he did not do, and the fight has not taken place. Doubtless, the stakes will be awarded to Wormald.

An aeronaut named Hodsman, who ascended on Monday from the Exhibition Palace at Dublin, descended safely at midnight near Appleby, in Westmoreland, the balloon having been taken by a strong upper current across the Channel in seven hours. Much anxiety was felt in Dublin as to Mr. Hodsman's fate before the telegram had arrived announcing his safe landing. The balloon ascended from the Exhibition Palace grounds, in that city, between four and five o'clock, and when it reached its apparently highest altitude, encountered a strong current which carried it in a north-easterly direction over the Hill of Howth, and across the Channel.

A DUTCH RAM IN THE MERSEY.—Liverpool was on Monday, for the first time during a number of years, visited by a Dutch vessel of war, and her presence in the Mersey, owing to the rarity of the visit, was the subject of some discussion. Her name is Vedel; she is a formidable-looking screw vessel, with four masts. The Vedel came last from Laxel, and is commanded by Captain Koopman, and will undergo some improvements during her stay in the Mersey.

THE TAILORS' STRIKE.

No change occurred in the aspect of the movement. The men have expressed themselves totally dissatisfied with the views put forward at the meeting of the masters on Saturday, and threaten that the only effect of the resolution passed on that occasion will be more widely-spread discontent, and a more widely-organised strike. They say they accept the issue offered, and that they are confident of success, for they are, they allege, far more united than their opponents. They assert further that the numbers at the masters' meeting was no criterion of their strength, for several firms were represented by two, three, and in some cases, four of their employees. If driven to extremities, the men will appeal to the country generally, and order a strike throughout the provinces. With a view to the effectual realisation of this project, they propose reducing the rate of the weekly stipend granted at present to the men, and in the event of their funds being exhausted they will rely on the co-operation and support of the other trades' unions throughout the kingdom. We stated on Friday that the adoption of the new log arranged by the men would cause an increase of only 2s. per week in the wages of men employed by first-class firms. The masters say the addition would be much greater, but there are certainly two sides to the question. In the establishment of Mr. Poole, and in three or four other houses, no difference of pay was made under late regulations, no matter what the class of the goods to be made up. Now, in the log proposed by the men they suggest that in the making up of inferior goods less time should be allowed than in the case of first-class materials. Thus, with regard to coats, if so many hours be given for making a garment of super or faced, Venetian, silk mixture, or pilot cloth, then, if the coats be made of thin mutton, winceys, or common pilots, an hour and a-half is to be subtracted; and, if chevots or loose tweeds be the material used, there must be a further diminution of another hour and a-half, so that the difference between the time allowed for making a garment of the first quality goods and one of the third, would be three hours. The men say, then, that even if there be extras demanded which are not allowed for now, the masters get a corresponding advantage in the arrangement to which we have referred. It is extremely difficult for the public generally to understand all the details of the log; indeed, the members of the trade themselves differ widely on the character of the results which would follow its adoption. There can be no doubt that both masters and men have resolved on a determined struggle, and the latter say that the postponement of the further discussion of the subject for a month, as carried at the meeting on Saturday, will only add to the bitterness and intensity of the contest. News has been received that the dispute in Sheffield has been arranged to the satisfaction of all concerned. The men are to work from six to six in summer, and seven to seven in winter, all business to terminate at five on Saturday. So stands the movement at present, without any prospect of an amicable settlement as far as London is concerned. It may be added that the men allege that the masters refuse to discuss the details of the suggested log.

The main drainage at Battersea is said to be a failure. Not only are the basements flooded to a depth of one foot nine inches above the level permitted by the Central Board of Works, but it is stated that the mains—in reality reservoirs, instead of sewage conduits—are already in danger of bursting, from excess of fluid contents. The inhabitants justly complain that they have paid for efficient drainage, and now find themselves inundated by the very system that was to prevent all flooding.

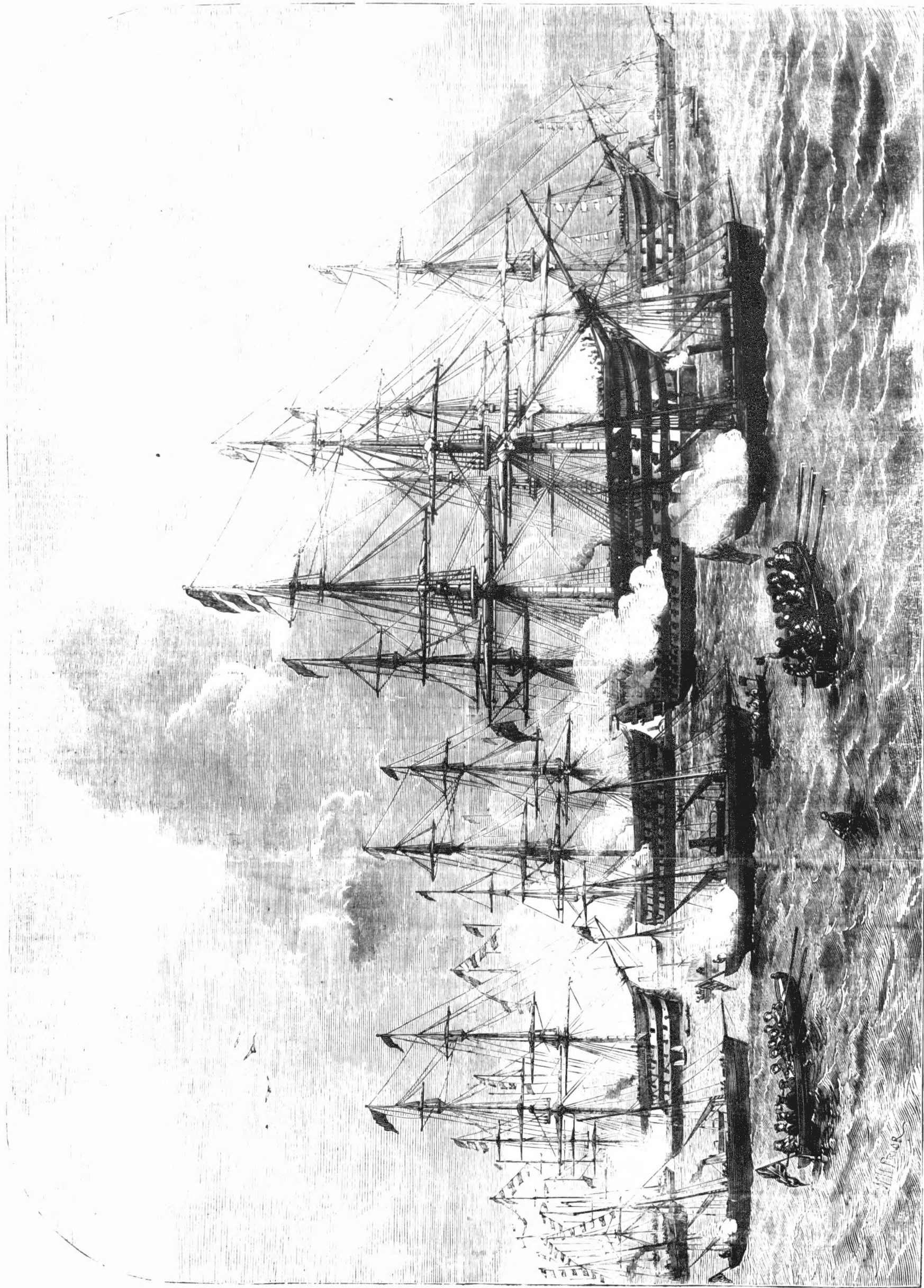
At the Middlesex Sessions, on Saturday, Mr. Frederick Strange, the proprietor of the Alhambra Palace, appealed against a conviction by Mr. Tyrwhitt, dated the 22nd of January, 1867, on a summons charging him with permitting the performance of stage plays without authority at the Alhambra, Leicester-square. It is needless to go into the matter again as the particulars must be fresh in the memory of our readers. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, Mr. Poland, and Mr. Ormerod appeared for the appellant; Mr. Hardinge Giffard, with Mr. Montague Williams supported the conviction. The Court, being of opinion that the representation complained of, entitled, *Where's the Police?* was part of a pantomime, confirmed the conviction, but would make no order as to costs.

Letters from Florence mention that a marriage has been arranged, and is fixed to take place in May, between Mr. Gustave Oppenheim, of Alexandria, nephew of the banker to the Viceroy of Egypt, and Signora Eugénie Fenzi, granddaughter of Senator Fenzi, the well-known Florentine banker.

LABORATORY V. GASWORKS.—A new scientific journal, the *Laboratory*, which is intended to record the results of the investigations and experiments of science, makes the following statement:—"Dr. Frankland's course of lectures on coal-gas has unsettled the popular belief respecting the conditions of luminosity of a gas-flame. They have also disturbed the peace of the London Gas Companies." The popular belief touching the luminosity of a gas-flame is—thanks to the gas companies—that there is precious little of it. We are glad to hear that the peace of the gas companies is threatened, for they have thrown a gloom over every household that used their gas, and ought to suffer for it.—*Fun*.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES.—In spite of reassuring paragraphs in the various medical papers, an obstinate belief is still prevalent among a large number of people that the health of the Princess of Wales is much worse than the bulletins from Marlborough House would lead the public to suppose. The facts of the case are these: Her Royal Highness is in excellent general health and spirits, and now succeeds in obtaining a little sleep without the aid of opiates. The knee is still much swollen, and the leg, which is supported by a cradle, cannot be moved without pain. The Princess is, however, decidedly progressing, and suffers less pain than hitherto, but she is still confined to her bed, and will not be able to put her foot to the ground for some weeks. In spite of the hints and rumours which have been freely whispered, we can assure our readers that there is no wound in the knee, and that amputation has never for a moment been feared. The worst that is apprehended is that her Royal Highness may for the next twelve months or so suffer from a slight stiffness in the joint.—*The Day*.

THE OAKS COLLIERY.—STATE OF THE MINE.—More than four months have elapsed since this sad explosion took place, and the pit remains closed. The opinion of some who are connected with collieries is that it would be as safe to open out the shafts at the present time as at twelve months to come. Public opinion and the desire of the relatives of those entombed is also very strong on this point. The boring operations near to the Arley Station, to avoid an extensive throw which is known to exist, are going on. The site for the new shaft will then be fixed. The escape pipe continues to act as an upcast, and has done so since the sealing of the second scaffold with little or no change.



THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW AT DOVER—NAVAL OPERATIONS AGAINST THE HEIGHTS.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE new season programme, just issued, presents, as usual, a great variety of attractions. Foremost among these are nine grand opera concerts, on Saturdays, in May, June, and July. That these will be of a varied and interesting character may be gathered from the announcement that, by arrangement with Mr. Gye, of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, and Mr. Mapleson, of Her Majesty's Theatre, the *artistes* of both opera houses will this year appear at the Crystal Palace. This liberal arrangement, will, no doubt, be appreciated by the holders of season tickets.

Besides the opera concerts, it is also stated to be the intention of the directors to undertake a great benefit concert, on a grand

of July, and some archery meetings on enlarged and improved arrangements a little later in the season.

As the Guinea Season Tickets admits to all these attractions, it will, no doubt, be much sought after. Last year's issue of Season Tickets was much larger than any former year, and, with such an attractive programme, it is confidently anticipated that the forthcoming season will even show better results.

It is gratifying to be able to state that the great holiday *fêtes* of the year, viz., Good Friday and Easter Monday have maintained their position with regard to their number of visitors. On Good Friday and Easter Monday alone upwards of 70,000 persons were present; and as more appointments than usual have already been made for the great excursions, viz., the Odd Fellows, Foresters,

Notwithstanding the severe winter, the Gardens, although a little backward, are in excellent condition.

The First display of the Terrace Fountains was given on May-day.

MORTALITY AMONG MOOR GAME.—About the month of November last the grouse and black game on the moors in Ettrick and Yarrow were attacked by a disease which had thinned the stocks of both kinds of birds to a very great extent, they having died in some places by the hundred. It is chiefly on largely-stocked moors that the disease prevails, having scarcely, if at all, shown itself where the birds are usually much shot, or not very strictly preserved.—*Edinburgh Courant.*



THE WAR IN ASIA.

scale, in June, for which very numerous offers of assistance have been already received.

The great Flower Show of the season will be held on Saturday, May 25, and the Rose Show on Saturday, June 29.

Amongst the novel features of last year's programme, none were more successful than the pyrotechnic displays and illuminations of the fountains, and the ballad concerts. They will be resumed this year. Two ballad concerts will be given on the 8th and 20th May, for both of which Mr. Sims Reeves is engaged: and the first great display of fireworks will take place on Thursday, May 23rd, the day after the Derby Day.

The Dramatic College *fetes* will be held as usual about the middle

of July, and some archery meetings on enlarged and improved arrangements a little later in the season.

The season opened on May-day (Wednesday last) with a great Choral Performance by the Metropolitan Schools, conducted by Mr. G. W. Martin. On this occasion the great Handel Orchestra was filled by the 5,000 singers in connection with the schools, who sang a variety of National Part Songs, each part being sustained by upwards of 1,000 voices.

The First Opera Concert, which will be supported by *artistes* of the Royal Italian Opera, will take place to-day (Saturday), May 4th.

THE WAR IN CENTRAL ASIA.

Advices from Candia announce that Omar Pacha had left Canea with a large force, including artillery, and was marching upon Sphakhia. Another Turkish general had set out for Kissamos by sea, for the same destination, in order to surround the insurgents. The illustration represents a Candian officer taking it exceedingly cool under existing circumstances, though he is evidently prepared for action whenever it may come.

France, on the demand of the Italian Government, has caused the arrest, at Marseilles, of three brigand chiefs, who arrived in that port from Civita Vecchia, on their way to Algeria.

Dead Acre: A CHAIN OF EVIDENCE.

BY
CHARLES H. ROSS.

Part the Second.
A WHITE HAND AT WORK.

CHAPTER XI.—THE COURSE OF TRUE LOVE IN SOHO-SQUARE.

MY Lady Lad's drawing-room was a quaint, old-fashioned place, into which, only for an hour or so, late in the afternoon, the sun could penetrate, and then but with a subdued light filtered through Venetian blinds.

A stiff and stately apartment, pervaded by a faint odour of dried rose-leaves and musk, with pain ed walls of faded green, reddish-brown curtains, harsh to the touch, and dusty in the folds, which were a much brighter colour than the rest, and chairs and tables of that kind that seem of themselves to fall into rows, and remain in whatever disorder you may place them, always bolt upright, bare, and hard.

The beautiful woman who, during her convalescence, sat so many hours by the window was in her black dress, and her pale oval face and lustrous eyes stood out from her surroundings as one of Rembrandt's figures stands out from its murky background. For so long she sometimes sat here, silent and alone, that, peeping in, one might almost have fancied she was in truth a picture, and not flesh and blood. She was on these occasions listlessly dreaming over a half-finished piece of needlework, or, perhaps, trying to delude herself into the idea that she was interested in a book.

But the books upon my lady's drawing-room table were of a trying nature, and calling for much patience and perseverance on the reader's part. There was no lack of pretty words in the dear old prosy tales with which in those days they filled the ladies' cabinets of fashion, music, and romance, and somewhat in this manner began the mildly-thrilling narratives of love adventure kindly provided for the delectation of the fair sex in 1840:—

"Soothingly played the sunset breeze over the sleeping sea, laden with the perfume from the orange-groves of Genoa. As the mellow light gilded the palace-roofs and domes of the old city, its aspect to the imaginative spectator who gazed distantly from the ocean was not unlike an ancient and splendid amphitheatre, with golden battlements, an azure canopy, and an arena of polished emerald." Then, a little further on, the hero makes his appearance in this style:—"The most prominent figure discernable upon the deck of the *Sea Nymph* was that of a young man clad in mariner's vestments, the quality of which indicated superiority of rank; not more distinctly than did their perfect adaptation serve to discover superiority of form and strength." Under such circumstances, can we be surprised if Viola Donatelli, the Nun of St. Agatha, should fall madly in love, and elope with him, and, when the proper time came, "religiously promise, through all the vicissitudes of this our world, to love, honour, and obey Francisco Roberto."

This sort of reading was quite after my lady's heart. He rather liked books such as "Humphrey Clinker," and "Peregrine Pickle," which were all very well, he said, to take up now and then, but heroes of the Roberto class were her especial favourite, and she would sit with her hands crossed in her lap, listening in a sort of rapture to the long sentences in which these adventures were recorded, and which were sometimes made longer still by Jane's inadvertently leaving out the full stops. Before long she found that Ruth was the best reader of the two, and often taxed her powers to the utmost. Often the old lady would close her eyes, and her thoughts wandering easily from the scene of Roberto's triumphs, she would presently drop into a gentle slumber. Awakening again after a few minutes she would probably find the same soft voice still murmuring by her side, and Roberto's course of true love still progressing with the same elegance of diction and paucity of incident.

On these occasions, when Jane had been the reader, the old lady had often awakened to find herself alone, for the young girl eagerly seized such an opportunity to lay down her book and make her escape. It seemed therefore very kind and considerate of Ruth not to abandon the task the moment she found an opportunity.

"She does not think it such hard work," my lady thought, "or perhaps it is not such hard work to her as to ——— others."

During her recent illness the old lady had more than once, without any seeming reason, drawn Ruth towards her to kiss her forehead, and had lain for half-an-hour at a time with her granddaughter's hand in hers. One day she said,

"You are very like what my daughter was sometimes, very like. But she wore her hair in a different way. I should like to see yours dressed so. Go to that cupboard, my dear, and you will find some papers in a little box covered with marble paper, bring them here."

Among these treasures the old woman had hoarded up was a lock of hair, which had belonged to the dead daughter. This she compared with Ruth's hair, and found it some shades lighter.

"I thought it was," said Lady Lad, "and she was taller too, than you are. Yet you are very much alike, very much. It frightens me a little, sometimes, when I awake and find you sitting there by the bedside like ———. No, never mind. Don't mind what I say. I'm very fond of you, and you are a good girl."

This idea of Ruth's resemblance to the dead daughter haunted her ladyship throughout her illness, and seemed sometimes to bring back recollections anything but pleasurable. Once, for instance, when they had been sitting in the drawing-room, and Ruth had been reading aloud, Lady Lad as usual closed her eyes and fell into a doze. She awakened again in about a quarter-of-an-hour, and found Ruth for once had laid down her book, and leant back in her chair with her eyes closed, and hands lying listlessly upon the arms of the chair.

The sunlight, struggling between the green shades of the blind, fell upon her hair and forehead, but upon the rest of her face a gray shadow fell, and to the old woman it seemed awfully still and deathlike. Rising in her chair she leant forward, listening eagerly for some sound of her breathing, and hearing nothing, flung her arms in a transport of terror round her neck, and called to her wildly to look up and speak.

"What is the matter, dear?" Ruth asked, in wonder.

"Oh, my poor child. Thank God. Oh, how nervous I am. Never mind me. It will pass away."

"But can I do anything—fetch anything?"

"No, no, my child. It is nothing. It will pass away," and presently she added with a poor attempt at laughter, "It is silly of me, and so long ago too. But as you sat there, you looked just as she looked, when I came at last—after she had written so often—came at last, and found her lying dead."

"You had not been friends for some time before my poor mother's death?"

"No. I always was opposed to her marriage with your father. I always knew him for the villain that he was. But your mother would not believe me. She believed him. The lover of a month in a girl's eyes is far more trustworthy than the parent who has nursed and cherished her since she was born. That's life, my dear? Bah! I was a fool myself when I was young. Which of us is not? It's a weary world, and I'm most sick of it."

"If she's so sick of it," thought Miss Jane, who was an ear-witness of this conversation, "what makes her waste so much money in doctor's stuff? I, too, am sick of such a life as this; but there is a better sort. Rich people can always be happy if they choose. She is a fool, and thinks that it is the best way to save up all the money she can get, except what she wastes in physic."

During these last few days Miss Jane had been more than ever busy with the treasures in the cupboards and lumber rooms. She took a sort of mental inventory of the miscellaneous rubbish scattered about, and fearlessly plunging into the dusty heaps unearthed many of my lady's wonderful bargains, of which my lady herself had long ago forgotten the existence. Stowed away in the most unlikely holes and corners, she found, too, little packets of guineas wrapped up in rags, or screwed up in paper, which she counted over with great glee.

She also paid a visit to the legal documents in the tin box upstairs, one night when my lady lay asleep and snoring, and again read over the will she had looked at before. It had not been altered, she found, and threw a sigh of relief when she reached the end.

My lady, she thought, very probably intended to make Ruth a present before she died, but she did not know she was so ill.

"She'll leave it till too late," Jane said to herself with a chuckle, "or she'll ask me to do it at the last moment. But I won't give her anything. I'll give none of them anything. I'll pay them all out. When I am married to Mr. Jeffcoat we will go away to some grand place, and leave this filthy hole. How I hate it, and everybody in it!"

But of all whom she hated, she hated most her father's widow, as by slow degrees the truth began to dawn upon her that they were rivals in Jack Jeffcoat's love.

My lady, finding herself growing stronger, revived the famous company nights, and requested the honour of Jack's society. To these reunions Mr. Jack came, as may be supposed, very eagerly, and made himself immensely entertaining. He knew, it seemed to her ladyship, every game of cards under the sun. He could play by ear, and with some taste, and worked little miracles out of the cottage piano, which hitherto had only tinkled with musical box power, an accompaniment to my lady's falsetto.

During these evenings, watching his time, he found many opportunities of sitting by Ruth's side, and then, unheeded by all but one, would pass the time away in that delightful dreamy talk which is, under such circumstances, worth all—more than all—the wit of the world put together. But there was one watching them with a darkening brow.

"What does he mean?" Jane asked herself. She thought at first it was a blind. Then she thought that it was Ruth's work, and that she lured him away from her. If this were the case, there might be found a remedy. If Ruth were gone, he would forget her probably. But before long the truth forced itself upon her. There could be no doubt of it; Jane was at length convinced.

He did not love her. He had but made a toy of her. He treated her like a child.

How shall I picture the rage and despair that tore at her young heart when she made at last this dire discovery? When the awful truth dawned upon her, it seemed as though the sun had suddenly gone down for ever, and left the earth in cold, gray shade all blank and desolate, like a long sea coast in a winter's twilight.

Eying the lovers askance with gleaming eyes and vengeful heart, the young girl sat the evening through unnoticed. He never came near her. He seemed, indeed, to have wholly forgotten her existence. When the time came for him to go, and he was saying "good night," he looked round for her, and asked, carelessly—

"What has become of Miss Jane? Gone to bed, I suppose."

My lady supposed so, with a yawn. Nobody felt vitally interested upon the subject, and Jack had forgotten all about her when he was putting on his great coat in the hall, Charity Stone standing by and lighting him with a candle she held in her hand, was called for by Lady Lad, who, as he had been much longer than usual in his preparations for departure, supposed he had gone.

"Yes, my lady," called out Charity, in reply, and added in a lower tone, "I ought to be cut in two for this place, then I might be everywhere at once."

"Don't let me keep you," said Jack, "I can open the door very well myself."

"Oh, she can wait."

"Charity! Charity!"

"Oh, I'm coming."

"Go then."

Thus urged, Charity put down the candlestick upon a slab in the passage, and hurried up stairs, whilst Jack, still busy with the folding of a shawl-scarf, in which he intended to wrap up his neck, stood by the door softly humming a tune. Suddenly a hand was laid upon his arm, and turning he found Jane by his side.

"Why I thought you were in bed."

"No."

"We all thought so. Wherever have you been?"

He was still folding up his scarf, and his eyes were fixed upon the work on which he was engaged. It was not a question of life and death that he had asked, and no answer coming readily, he presently forgot it had not been answered. Going on with this endless scarf business; it had come out of its folds when he had thrust it away into his pocket, and he was always very particular about the way he wore it; he went on humming the tune he had been humming when she came up to him.

Jane stood silently by his side. She had her back to the light, and her face was in deep shadow, or he might have noticed a faint quiver of her thin lips, and a certain dimness of her eyes, in which the tear-drops trembled. But when at last she spoke, he could not fail to observe the broken tone of her voice, that she strove vainly to render firm.

"When are you coming again, Mr. Jeffcoat?"

"When? I hardly know. To-morrow perhaps."

"I think you—I think you need not come again for some time, that is, to see me."

Jack desisted from his occupation, and stooping down took her hand.

"Why Jane, what is the matter?"

"Oh, nothing."

"Oh, nothing! There must be something. What is it? Something or somebody has annoyed you. Who is it? Is it me?"

Jane was silent.

"It is me then. My poor dear little girl, what have I done?"

His dear little girl! That was the way he always talked. He would treat her like a child. He thought of her only as a child.

He had only been playing with her from the first. What had he done too, what had he done? Broken her heart almost. Destroyed the one dream of happiness she had cherished in her miserable little life.

"Nothing," she replied, shortly.

"Oh, but I am sure I have offended you. Poor little girl, what have I done? I am so sorry."

"Sorry!" she cried out, savagely, and twisted herself away from his arm, which was encircling her waist.

"Jane, my dear, do tell me."

"No; I have nothing to tell; you need not be sorry; you have done nothing to be sorry about. Let me go, please, I am called."

"I hear nobody calling. Wait a minute. Why need I not come again? If I do not come, you know, I shall not be able to see you."

"What of that?"

"A great deal. How strangely you talk, my little dear. You must have been very much vexed. What is it? Now, come, do let me try and help you."

"You can say nothing now to help me, thank you, and—and I must go. Good night."

"No—stop!"

"Good night."

She had escaped him this time, and ran up-stairs to her own room. Here flinging herself upon the bed, she sobbed passionately. She rose to her knees, and, clasping her hands above her head, poured forth wild prayers of piteous entreaty, mingled with mad threats.

"O God, O God!" she cried out loudly, I cannot bear it. "Oh, have mercy on me, I am so wretched. She shall not have him. I'll kill them for it. I'll kill them all—I will, I will."

She lay down again upon the bed and tried to sleep, tossing her hot head heaving to and fro upon the pillow. Then, finding all efforts to compose herself to slumber fruitless, rose slowly, and clambering into the window seat, sat huddled up half naked, her hands clasped round her knees, her lustreless eyes, red and swollen by her recent tears, fixed on the sky, where the first glimmering of the coming day was faintly visible.

When day broke it found her still sitting there—still brooding over her wrongs.

Some hours later, when Charity Stone came up-stairs to call her, Jane said that she was ill, and wished to stop in bed an hour longer. Charity took the news down to her ladyship, and returned, after a while, with a message that she was on no account to get up, unless she was better; and that, when the doctor came, he should come and see her.

"No, no!" cried the young girl, starting up into a sitting posture, and speaking with vehemence, "I won't see him."

"But, if you are ill."

"I won't see him, I say. Please leave me alone. What makes you persecute me? Will none of you leave me alone?"

"Oh, I won't trouble you any more. No fear."

With an angry toss of her head, then, the servant took her departure, and Jane was left alone. She lay there untroubled for several hours. The day wore on, and a neighbouring church clock at last informed her that it was three o'clock.

Jane thought then that she would get up and come down stairs. She arose from her bed and went out to listen on the landing. There was not a sound to be heard. Perhaps they had all gone out. But in that old-fashioned house, with its thick walls and heavy doors, it was almost impossible to hear any slight noise from one room to another. No one knew this better than Jane, who had so often played eaves-dropper at the key-holes.

Perhaps they had all gone out for a walk. She was left there by herself. They had gone out without coming up to inquire whether she was in want of anything. Why should they inquire, indeed? What did they care?

She dressed herself slowly, her heart full of rage and hate, and came, at last, down stairs. Still she heard nothing, and expecting to find the drawing-room empty, opened the door.

But Jeffcoat was there with Ruth. They sat before the window, she in an old-backed arm-chair, he on a lower chair, by her side. Her head was bent down over some work, but her fingers were motionless. He was bending over her, and one of his hands rested upon her's, while he looked fixedly into her face.

Thus for a moment they sat before the girl, when she gazed in upon them; but almost instantly she had closed the door again, and was leaning against the wall outside, with a dead-sick feeling upon her, her knees trembling so that they could scarce support her weight.

She remained in this way several minutes, in the same attitude, then gathering her strength, and with it a fierce resolution, she moved onwards, the old hard, cruel look upon her white face.

"I will do it," she muttered. "Now I will do it. They shall see. They shall see. Oh, if I had some one to help me. But I will do it alone."

At that instant there was a double knock at the street door, and she found, when Charity had opened the door, that the voice she heard, although that of a stranger, was not altogether unfamiliar to her. She was yet waiting on the stairs when Charity brought up a card.

"Who is it?"

"A gentleman wishes to see Mrs. Acre."

"Give me the card."

"Charity did so, and Jane read the name of Mr. Edward Gay."

"Who is that?" the girl thought, and looked over the banisters at a tall figure, with a dark handsome face, in the hall below.

Then she remembered. "It is the doctor they sent for after my father died. What does he want?" and she added aloud, "I'll give the card myself," and so saying re-opened the drawing-room door and entered.

Ruth rose somewhat hastily as she entered, and came towards her.

"Here is a gentleman wishes to see you."

"A gentleman?"

"The doctor whom you sent for when my father died."

"Gay?"

"Yes. I'll tell him to come up."

"No—"

But, without waiting for her reply, Jane had left the room. Ruth, trembling violently, started forward with the intention of following.

"I do not want to see the person," she said. "What can I do? Ah! he is here. There is no time."

She looked round with wild, scared eyes, as though seeking some place of refuge, but Jack caught her hand.

"You must see him," he whispered. "I know all. I will be here to protect you, if need be, here behind the curtain."

As he spoke he hid himself, and next moment Edward Gay entered the room, and stood facing the shrinking woman.

(To be continued.)

MORNINGS WITH THE MAGISTRATES.

At the Portsmouth Borough Police-court, Captain Jam Simpson, of her Majesty's troop-ship *Megara*, was taken before the magistrates, on a remand from Wednesday last, charged with assaulting Charles Walsh, a lad of twelve years of age, in Portsmouth, on the 11th inst. After a lengthy inquiry, Captain Simpson was committed for trial at the quarter sessions.

At the Thames Police-court a youth named Charles Young, was brought before Mr. Paget, charged with assaulting William Gandy, a Police-constable, No. 95 K. The prisoner and another youth were engaged in a warm and abusive religious discussion at two o'clock on Saturday morning, in Willis-street, Bromley, and on the policeman suggesting that they had better have an adjournment to the following day the prisoner struck him. He also took a clasp knife from his pocket, which he attempted to open, but Gandy prevented him.—Mr. Paget sentenced him to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for two calendar months.

At Marlborough-street, three tailors were charged with having intimidated a tailoress. Mrs. Ann Newland, the tailoress, was coming out of Mr. Poole's shop, in Saville row, when the defendants, who, as it was stated, were acting as "pickets" in connection with the strike, came up to her and insisted on inspecting the contents of a bundle she carried. The woman refused, some sort of altercation ensued, and Mr. Poole, who witnessed the affair, gave the three tailors into the custody of a policeman. The assault was admitted by the counsel for the accused, and they were ordered to find bail in £5 each to keep the peace for six months. The bail was at once forthcoming.

At Southwark Police-court the case of the Rev. Mr. Capel, the clergyman who was charged with indecently assaulting a young girl in a railway carriage, on the South Eastern Railway, was again brought before the magistrate. The charge was, that the defendant had behaved indecently to the complainant as she was getting out of a carriage. On the second hearing of the case witnesses were called to disprove the complainant's statement, and to discredit her. One of these was a man who said he had been discharged with a good character from the Royal Artillery. It now turns out that he was a deserter, and that his story was trumped up. Additional evidence was adduced on behalf of the defendant, and the magistrate dismissed the case.

An old woman named Catherine Willis, aged fifty, who said she had no home or occupation, was charged before Mr. Cooke on Monday, at Clerkenwell Police-court, with being drunk and disorderly, in Upper-street, Islington. Police-constable Charles Swan, 77 N, said that between twelve and one o'clock on Sunday morning the defendant came to the police-station and asked for an order of admission to the casual ward. As she was the worse for liquor she was told she could not have one, and was desired to leave the station. When she got outside, she screamed, and then he took her into custody, and locked her up. The defendant, in the most emphatic terms, denied that she was the worse for liquor, and said that on asking for an order at the station she was seized and locked up, by order of the inspector. On Friday she had no food, and on Saturday very little, and she had been kept lying on the boards of the cell, until that morning, and all that had been given her by the police was one cup of coffee. She was nearly starved. Mr. Cooke said he must act on the evidence before him, and ordered the defendant to pay a fine of 2s., or in default to be confined in the cells of the court for one day.

At Bow-street Police-court, on Monday, Mr. Simon Lamb, a barrister, residing at 1, Paper-buildings, Temple, was charged with being drunk, and behaving in an extraordinary manner in Bow-street. Edward Carroll, police-constable 113 F, deposed that about half-past two o'clock this morning he was on duty in front of Bow-street police-station. His attention was called to two young women who were running away up Bow-street, screaming and shouting for help. The prisoner was chasing them, calling out that he was the devil, and this frightened them very much. The two women, on perceiving witness, ran to him for protection, but the prisoner still persisted in chasing them round the constable, and said "that he would not be interfered with, as he was the devil." The prisoner at last became so very disorderly that witness was compelled to take him to the station-house. The two young women had signed the charge sheet, but had failed to attend this morning to prosecute. In answer to the charge the prisoner said that he was very sorry, that he had been drinking, and got very drunk, but did not remember anything of the occurrence.—Mr. Flowers: I suppose that the girls really thought that he was the devil? (Laughter).—Witness: Yes, your worship, I think they did, by the way they ran and screamed.—Mr. Flowers: Well, if he had been the devil, it would have been a very fortunate capture. (Loud laughter). As it is I shall fine him 10s.

At Clerkenwell Police-court a working man applied to Mr. Cooke for an order compelling the parish authorities of St. Pancras to assist him to bury his child. He said that it died on Saturday last, and that the corpse was beginning to smell. He also stated that he had been out of work for some time, and that the officers told him he ought to be ashamed of himself to go to the workhouse on such an errand, and that he was strong enough to be able to pay the money. Mr. Cooke granted the order asked for, and directed that the applicant should take it to the assistant relieving overseer at once. The applicant attended again on Saturday morning, and said that on Thursday both he and his wife went to the vestry-hall, and saw Mr. James, who refused to take any notice of his statement, or of the magistrate's order. As the smell from the corpse was getting very strong, and the place in which he resided (Draper's-place) was only a few feet wide, and almost every room was occupied by a single family, he was afraid that some contagion would break out, and he therefore went that morning and again saw Mr. James, who said that he would not give him an order to bury the child, and when he showed him the magistrate's order, he said that he did not care for all the magistrates in the metropolis, and that he would not give him an order. Mr. Flowers directed that one of the warrant officers of the court should go to the vestry, and direct that Mr. James should attend before him. Mr. James attended, and said that he could not see to the matter on the previous day, and that morning, when the applicant came, he told him that if he could not bury the child himself he had better apply to his friends. The man told him that if he did not give him an order he should go to the magistrate; and what he told him was, that if he did go he had better confine himself to the truth. When the man left he sent a man after him to tell him that he had given directions that a coffin should be sent, but the applicant would not return. The applicant: I beg your pardon; he did not say a word about giving me an order. The magistrate having said that he hoped the order had been given, the matter dropped.

At Marlborough-street Police-court on Monday Mary Jones, a stylishly-dressed young woman, was charged before Mr. Mansfield with being drunk, disorderly, and assaulting Joseph Barber, porter, at a café, No. 63, Haymarket, and Charles Adams, a young man, residing at No. 22, Great Percy-street, Pentonville, was charged with attempting to rescue Jones from the custody of the police.—Joseph Barber, porter at a café, No. 63, Haymarket, said that shortly after twelve o'clock on Saturday night the prisoner Jones came to the café, and directly after she came in she kicked up a disturbance. As she refused to leave when requested he was obliged to get the assistance of the police, when she became very violent, upset all the chairs in the room, threw herself down, and bit his hand. While the constable was trying to take her to the station a number of persons surrounded him and knocked off his hat, and Adams tried to rescue her from the constable.—In reply to Mr. Mansfield, the witness said the female had been drinking, but well knew what she was about. Adams was sober, and said when he took hold of the female that she should not go to the station.—Adams denied saying the female prisoner should not go to the station.—Jones said she did not remember anything till she was brought to the court.—Jeremiah Mead, 126 C, proved seeing the female prisoner, who was very violent, bite Barber's hand. As soon as he got outside the café door a mob got round them, his hat was knocked off, and Adams tried to get the female prisoner away from him by striking him on the arms and pulling her away. While at the station the female prisoner struck him two or three times in the face.—Adams denied striking the constable.—William Mickleborough, 307 A, said he was present in the station when Adams was brought in, wearing at the time the red and black shawl Jones was wearing in court. He saw Jones strike the last witness in the face.—Adams said that, seeing the female being roughly handled, he put his arm round her waist and said he would put her into the cab and get her away, but he did not know at the time that she was in custody, or he would not have interfered. Somebody knocked the constable's hat off, and then the constable charged him with attempting to rescue his prisoner. He denied striking the constable.—Mr. Mansfield said the female prisoner, who had acted very badly, and been the cause of the affair, would be fined £5, or a month; and Adams, who had acted very foolishly, would have to pay 40s., or a month.

At the Worship-street Police-court, Herbert Jones, a well-dressed young man, of excellent connections, was charged before Mr. Newton with assaulting Emma Hayley, unfortunate.—The prosecutrix stated that early in the morning she was taking a cup of coffee at a stall in the Kingsland-road, when the prisoner and another man pushed against her, and on her telling him that if he did not desist she would lock him up, he struck her a blow on the mouth of such force as to loosen her teeth and cause the blood to flow profusely.—For the defence, Thomas Neale, a clerk, residing in South-grove, Midway-park, deposed that he was with the prisoner, having coffee at the stall, when the prosecutrix became very abusive, and called the prisoner a filthy name. The latter said that if she repeated the epithet he would knock her cup and saucer out of her hand, which he did, and that was all witness saw. The whole affair lasted not more than two minutes.—Mr. Newton sentenced the prisoner to one month's imprisonment.—Later in the day, Mr. Abbott, the prisoner's solicitor, attended to apply for a mitigation of the sentence, on the ground of the provocation the prisoner received, and the utter ruin which would inevitably result to excellent prospects if the sentence was carried out. The magistrate said that, owing to the prisoner's position in life, a month's imprisonment would be as severe to him as six months to a person of less favourable prospects, and all he had to do was to consider the amount of imprisonment. If a poor man was brought before the court, charged with such an unprovoked assault on a woman, he would be sentenced to a term of imprisonment without the option of paying a fine, and all he should do in this case was to entertain Mr. Abbott's application so far as to reduce the sentence to seven days. The father of the prisoner, accompanied by some highly respectable and influential friends, subsequently attended, and beseeched the magistrate in the warmest terms to allow his son to settle the matter by paying a fine.—Mr. Newton said that, not being a father himself, he could not enter perfectly into the feelings of the applicant; but this he must say, that whatever sympathy he felt for those with whom the prisoner was connected must be powerless to effect a reversion of his decision. He sat there under an oath to discharge his magisterial duties in an impartial and conscientious manner, and he should be wanting in both if he entertained the present application. A man is not justified in raising his finger in anger against a woman, whatever the provocation he received, and the degraded state to which she might have fallen, and he was compelled by the provisions of the law to adhere to the sentence he had pronounced. The father, who seemed deeply distressed, thanked the magistrate for the consideration he had experienced, and left the court.

At Lambeth Police-court, William Clark, a timber-merchant, residing at Peter's-cottages, Liverpool-street, Walworth, apparently about sixty years of age, was summoned to show cause why he should not be adjudged the father of a child of which a young girl named Louisa Wilkins had been delivered, and who was now under 17 years of age.—Mr. Hicklin (Binns and Hicklin) appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Kent for the defendant.—Mr. Hicklin represented the case as one of great depravity on the part of the defendant who was a married man with a grown-up family, and nearly sixty years of age, whilst the girl had been seduced was at the time just beyond fifteen years of age.—The complainant and her parents were called as witnesses before Mr. Partridge, the magistrate.—The defendant and Mr. Wilkins, the father of the girl, were in partnership as timber-merchants, at York-street, Walworth, and when the occurrence was known the partnership was dissolved.—The statement of Louisa Wilkins was, that when she was going to a music lesson, the defendant walked with her, and took her to a house in Albion-place. The woman of the house came out, and, with the defendant, dragged her in, and there she was seduced, and had been several times with the defendant to the same house. After she was delivered of a child, an action was brought for seduction by her father, and it was tried last month before Mr. Under-Sheriff Abbott, at Newington Sessions-house, and the jury awarded £75 as damages. The defendant was examined on the trial, and admitted that he had had connection with the girl, but did not admit that he was the father. It appears that since the action for seduction, the defendant was made bankrupt and the damage and debts had not been paid. The girl was cross-examined with the view of showing that she had been loose with other persons, but she positively denied the allegations.—Mr. Kent submitted that there was not sufficient corroborative evidence as required by the Bastardy Act to establish the paternity against the defendant. He called no evidence, and admitted that it was a very painful case. In the event of the court being against him, he should submit that the debt for damage and expenses should be proved under the bankruptcy up to the date of the adjudication.—Mr. Partridge, in giving his opinion, commented on

the defendant's conduct, who had, by his partnership, opportunities of deluding the young girl, and he had, the magistrate declared, acted as a thorough villain in taking the poor child to a common house and effecting her seduction. She at the time was only two months above fifteen years, and he above sixty. Furthermore, he had added to his disgraceful conduct by the instructions he had given his attorney. The girl had given her evidence, and there was nothing against her character but the one circumstance that she had been seduced by a man more than old enough to be her father. He considered the corroborative evidence sufficient, and he should make an order for 2s. 6d. a-week, which was unfortunately all he could do, and allowed all the costs of the present application.

At Marylebone Police-Court, Charles Barne, aged 38, of Lee-road, Lee, Kent, contractor, was charged with indecently assaulting Elizabeth Westerley, aged 14, in a carriage on the Metropolitan Railway. Inspector Gibbons, of the Metropolitan Railway, was in attendance. Mr. Allen, of the Associate Institute for Improving and Enforcing the Laws for the Protection of Women and Children, watched the case on behalf of that society. Mr. Johnson defended the prisoner. Elizabeth Westerley said.—I reside at No. 5, Elliott's-court, Old Bailey. I am getting on for 14. I got into a third-class carriage on the Hammersmith Railway. The prisoner and myself were the only two in the compartment. I was coming from Hammersmith to London, and we had passed the station at Shepherd's bush. I am not certain whether we passed more than one station. He assaulted me indecently, and threw me down on the floor, and I screamed. I asked the guard to stop with me in the train. The guard put another person in with me, and he got out at King's-cross. In cross-examination the prosecutrix said: When I got in at Hammersmith the prisoner was alone in the compartment. I sat on one side and he on the other. He beckoned me to come to him, and I did go and sit by his side. He took liberties with me, and I told him to be quiet. When we got to Shepherd's-bush station I did not tell the guard. Before arriving there he pulled me about. When the train arrived at Shepherd's-bush I was sitting by his side. When the train had again started he took these improper liberties with me. I did not say I would tell the guard till the prisoner acted very indecently. I screamed when he did that. When he threw me down I screamed, and on turning my head and looking up I saw the guard looking in at the window. I am sure I did not see the guard before I screamed. When I screamed I had the prisoner by the hair of his head. I certainly should have told him at the station. John Cavet said.—I am in the service of the Metropolitan Railway as guard. On Friday night I was guard of the ten o'clock train from Hammersmith. Before the train started I observed the prisoner and the girl in the compartment by themselves. The prisoner had a cigar in his hand, and after the train had started I looked round to see if he was smoking. I saw him getting towards the little girl, who was sitting with her back to the engine. I thought the girl was young and I would watch him. I saw him put his arm round her waist and kiss her. I kept watching him. This was on the way to Shepherd's-bush. On the way from this place to Notting-hill station he had his arm round her waist and kept kissing her and acting indecently towards her. After the train left Notting-hill station he remained in the same position with her till the arrival at Westbourne-park. After the train left this station I could hear the girl calling out. I looked into the compartment and saw the prisoner trying to lift her on the seat. He tried to force her back on the seat. After that he put her on the floor. She had him by his hair and scratched his face. (The right side especially of the prisoner's face was scratched.) She scratched his face and pulled his hair as much as her strength would allow. I immediately got into the compartment, and asked him if he was not ashamed of himself, and he said "No." The train was running at the time, and the girl asked me to stop with her. I could not do this as I had my break and signals to attend to going into the station. At the Edgware-road station I got a passenger to go into the same compartment with them, and he went on with them to King's-cross. I took the prisoner to Moor-gate-street and gave him into custody. There the girl said he wanted to give her 10s. and take her home in a cab. In cross-examination the witness said.—When my attention was first called to the liberty taken I was standing on the step with the door of my break compartment open. The parties were in the next compartment to my break, but the girl did not see me, because I was standing at the far corner of my compartment. Up to the arrival of the train at Westbourne-park the prisoner had not roughly used her. She seemed to acquiesce in all he did up to the arrival of the train at Westbourne-park. The prisoner had been drinking, still he was not drunk. John Cook, 125 city police, said the prisoner was given into his custody at Moor-gate-street station. He had been drinking. Mr. Johnson considered that this was just one of those cases where drink had got the better of a man, and he considered that it might be treated as an assault, and a fine inflicted. He believed that if the girl had not seen the eyes of the guard through the window she would not have screamed. It seemed to him that young as she was, she had acted most improperly. Mr. Mansfield said the case must go for trial. It rested upon the evidence of the guard, who had behaved in a proper manner in watching over the girl. He it was who saw the offence committed. He considered it a bad case. Upon the application of Mr. Johnson the magistrate agreed to accept bail—the prisoner in the sum of 100l, and two sureties in 50l each. Mr. William Slater, builder, Blythe-lane, Hammersmith, and Mr. Thomas Dean, licensed victualler, Black Lion, Hammersmith, were accepted as bail.

SISTERLY AFFECTION.—Two maiden ladies named Hinde, one aged 70, the other 75, daughters of the late Major Hinde, were last week buried in one grave at Epping. One of them died a few years ago, and the other had the body enclosed in a leaden coffin and kept it in the house till her own decease. She was accustomed every day to place fresh flowers on the coffin.

CARDS FOR THE MILLION.—A Copper-Plate Engraved (any style), and Fifty Best Cards Printed, with Card Case included, for 2s. Sent post free by ARTHUR GRANGER, the noted Cheap Stationer, 309, High Holborn, and the New Brough Bazaar, 95, S.E.

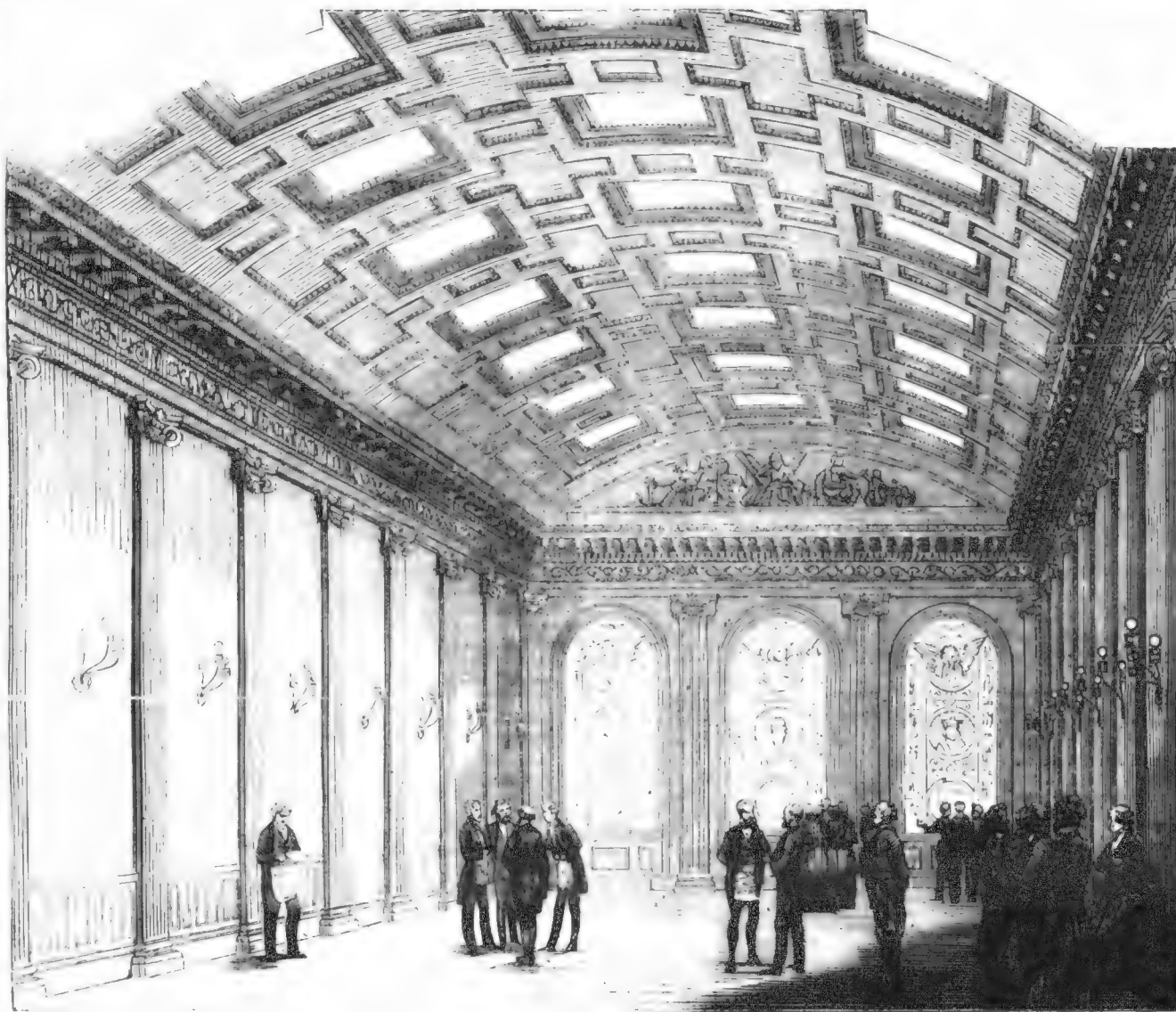
AN ELEGANT COUGH REMEDY.—In our variable climate during the winter months coughs and colds appear the greatest enemies to mankind, and we are pleased to be able to draw the attention of sufferers to "Stranks's Celebrated Balsam of Honey," which as a cough remedy stands unrivalled. Honey, in the form of a balsamic preparation, is strongly recommended by the faculty, our medical works, and by Dr. Parley (late lecturer on medicine to the hospitals).—See *Medical Notices*, vol. 2, page 1831. It will relieve the most irritating cough in a few minutes, and by its mildly stimulating action, gently discharges phlegm from the chest by easy expectoration, and restores the healthy action of the lungs. The amount of suffering at this time of the year is incalculable, and numbers from the want of an efficacious remedy at a low cost, have the germs of consumption laid. Sold by most chemists at 1s. 1d. per bottle, large size 2s. 3d. Prepared by P. Stranks, operative chemist, 200, East-street, Walworth. Agents: Messrs. Barclay, Farrington-street; Newberry, St. Paul's; J. Sanger, 18 J, Oxford-street; and Butler and Crisp, Cheapside.—ADVT.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, FROME.

The hall of this institution (of which we give an engraving), is, for extent, loftiness, and convenience, the best in the town. It is surmounted by a semi-circular roof, the ribs springing from corbels in the wall. The hall is well lighted during the day from skylights in the roof. At one end is a platform, raised about two feet from the floor, on which is a convenient room on the one side, and on the other a staircase leading down to the side door in Eagle-lane, and other conveniences. Underneath the hall, and at the front of the building, are eight commodious rooms, most of them well lighted and fitted up, designed for the committee-room, reading-room, library, class-rooms, porter's residence, kitchen, and similar necessities. The front of the building is of freestone, and is attractive in appearance. Entering the large doors in the front, two wide semi-circular staircases lead at once to the large hall, which is effectually heated by hot air, and perfectly ventilated by four trap-doors in the roof, and lighted by an efficient gas chandelier in the centre, containing seventy-two burners. Around the walls, and in other parts of the building, are eleven busts, the gift of D. Nicoll, Esq., M.P., representing various eminent men. The architect was Mr. Joseph Chapman, and the builder Mr. George Butler. The building was first opened to the members and public in 1858.

LOSS OF TWO LIVES FROM CHOKE DAMP.—A TERRIBLE SCENE.

On Thursday week a young man, named Jesse Wood, and a boy, named William Jones, lost their lives by suffocation by choke damp, in a pit, forming part of the Hurst Colliery, Dudley. The colliery is the property of Messrs. Cochrane, and is worked for them by Mr. E. Dainty and his son. The pit in which the accident occurred had been closed for a few days, but it had been ventilated during the interim, and was considered perfectly safe. A quantity of damp had, however, collected at the bottom of the shaft, and this needed dispersing. At six o'clock the colliers employed in the pit assembled on the bank, and five men, together with the deceased persons, entered the skip for the purpose of descending. The shaft was but forty yards deep, and when near the bottom the banksman, Joseph Round, heard the cry, "Hold." The signal was conveyed, and the banksman spoke to the men, but received no answer. When the skip arrived at the mouth of the pit it was empty, the men having become stupefied with the choke damp, and fallen out. Two sons of the doggy, Reuben and Richard Dainty, immediately jumped into the empty skip, and, ordering the men standing round to dash buckets of water upon them as they descended, went to the rescue of the unfortunate fellows at the bottom. Their orders were carried out in good earnest, and in a few seconds the brothers arrived at the bottom, nearly drowned, but perfectly conscious, the greater part of the gas having been driven off by the water. They immediately placed the persons near them in the skip, and they were drawn up. A man named George Hale, who had a brother in the pit, then descended, and having found him, put him in the skip. Exhausted, however, with the damp, and a struggle with his brother, who, being at the point of death, fought fiercely, Hale had not power to pack the skip properly, and, after it had ascended a yard or so, both men fell out, and the skip returned empty. The brothers Dainty again went down, and brought out the brothers Hale and the boy Jones, who was the last in the bottom. Upon the arrival of the men at the bank, restoratives were applied, and every available means used to bring them back to consciousness. They were so far successful that the five men previously mentioned were pronounced out of danger. Upon examining Wood and Jones, however, it was found that life in each case was extinct.



MASONIC HALL, EDINBURGH.

A ROMANCE OF THE SEA.

A SINGULAR and romantic incident has occurred at Sunderland, on the return of a man who for four years had been given up; and in the meantime his wife had again married. It appears that upwards of four years ago a seaman named Fife sailed in a Sunderland ship named the *Sarahs* for Australia. Fife left behind him a wife, to whom he had been married three years, and a child. On the vessel's arrival in Australia she was sold, and after that all trace was lost of Fife by his wife in Sunderland. After three years' silence, during which she mourned her husband as dead, Mrs. Fife was induced to listen to another suitor, and at the Whitsuntide of 1866 she married a sailor, with whom she has lived happily since, little dreaming that her first husband was alive, and would return to claim her. But so it was. Fife, on his arrival in Australia, had gone to the diggings, where he remained, and for some reason best known to himself he had never communicated with his wife and child. From the diggings he returned to one of the seaports, and had the command of a vessel which sailed from Australia to other ports. In this trade he continued for nearly three years, until he began to think of returning to England, and landed at Bristol last week.

Still keeping his arrival secret, he proceeded to Sunderland, intending to surprise his wife, and before visiting her he made some inquiries of the police to ascertain if she was still living. At one o'clock on Sunday morning he knocked at the door of his father-in-law, a bill-poster, named Scott, where his wife was staying; and the surprise of his sudden appearance and unexpected return may easily be conceived. His wife at first doubted the reality of the return, but soon was convinced that he was in the flesh, and a scene of rejoicing followed. The long separated couple have again become united, but the difficulty will be to meet the claims of the second husband. Fortunately he is from home, having sailed only a few days previously on a voyage to New York.

FREEMASONRY IN SCOTLAND.

THE ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the St. Andrew's College Hall was performed on Friday, the 26th ult., by Mr. J. Whyte-Melville, Grand Master Mason of Scotland. The purpose of this hall, which is built by a company formed six years ago, is to afford a residence for young men attending the University of St. Andrew's.

On the present page we give an illustration of the interior of the Masonic Hall at Edinburgh, the first stone of which was laid in 1858. The hall is eighty feet long, thirty-eight feet wide, and thirty-six feet high to the centre of the carved ceiling. It is a very handsome and noble apartment, of graceful proportions, receiving its light from the roof. At the north end are three beautiful stained glass windows, over which, in bold relief, is sculptured the figure of St. Andrew, supported on either side by allegories of Faith, Hope, and Charity. The whole was designed and executed by Mr. W. J. Thomas, of London; the architect was Mr. Bryce, of Edinburgh.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

In connection with the recent great Volunteer Review, of which we have already given particulars, with illustrations, we now, in our present Number, give two other engravings, representing the reception of the first distinguished Continental visitors, who arrived at Dover a few days prior to the review, and a view of the sham bombardment by the fleet off the town, on Easter Monday.

THE COST OF PROVING GUNS.—It has been resolved that a reduction shall be made in the charges for proving guns at the Birmingham proof house in the month of July next. The "definitive proof" of breech loaders will in future, when the new scale comes into operation, cost 5d. against 9d., the present charge. "Provisional proof" of best barrels will be reduced from 4d. to 3d.



THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, FROME.



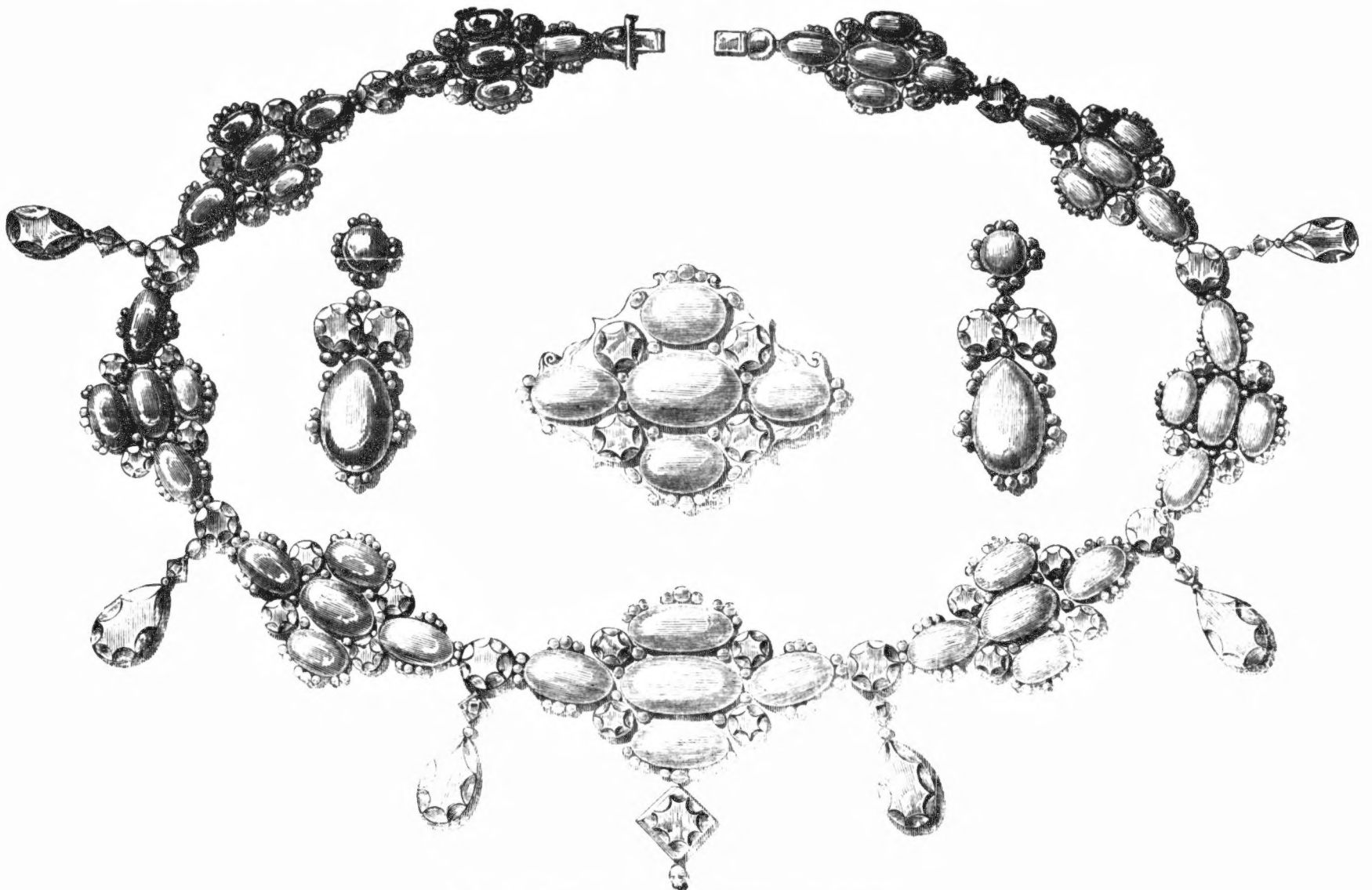
PARIS EXHIBITION—GROUP OF TOILET REQUISITES, &c.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

THERE is a truly magnificent display both of jewellery and goldsmith's ware in the Paris Exhibition. Of what we call "plate" and "precious stones," there is a show in which richness of material is only equalled by skill and delicacy in workmanship. Among the French exhibitors are the world-famed firms of Christophe, of Tromont Meurice, of Odier, of Belleau, of Luquet, of Fontana, and of Beaugrand. Among the English are Phillips, of Cockspur-street, Aubert and Linton, Elkington, Emanuel, Howell and James, Hunt and Roskell, Hancock, Randel, and Watherston, of London.

There are Turkish jewellers, both from Constantinople, from Trebizond, and even from the inaccessible Mecca. China has sent us some articles in filagree silver. Carlini of Milan, Cortellazzo of Vicenza, Somni of Cremona—where, by the way, there is not a single fiddle—Pans of Naples, and the well-nigh unapproachable Castellani of Rome—one of the most artistic and the dearest tradesmen in the world—represent Italy. Even non-manufacturing Columbia sends some very sumptuous plate from the Broadway store of the Messrs. Tiffany. The name of the Austrian and Prussian jewellers and goldsmiths is legion. Holland has but

one exhibitor, Mr. M. E. Coster, of Amsterdam, who is about to show the productions of diamond mines, and successive stages of lapidary-work, which, in an *annexe* constructed for the purpose, will be exhibited by native workmen. The Dutch lapidary's workshop promises to be one of the greatest curiosities of the exhibition, but it is not yet thoroughly finished. Portugal, Sweden, and Denmark send some beautiful specimens of gold and silver filagree, and plates beaten thin and perforated. Active little Tunis is, as usual, to the fore with Arab goldsmiths' work, rather barbarous, but very pretty; and Russia, whose entire



PARIS EXHIBITION—NECKLET, BROOCH, AND EARRINGS.

display in every branch is, like herself, grandiose, arrogant, and astounding, has decked herself as richly in gold and gems as Queen Esther before Ahasuerus. Even his Eminence Cardinal Antonelli, Minister Secretary of State for the Holy See, appears as an exhibitor in the department of jewellery; but with commendable modesty and humility. His Eminence has eschewed the precious metals, and shows only a beautiful cameo cut out of rock crystal.

It will thus be seen that there is enough jewelled and golden and silver sumptuousness in the Champ de Mars to create the anticipated "draw," and to command the indispensable "run." A crowd is ever at the jewellery cases. Young ladies clasp their hands and wave their parasols in the agitation of their emotion. But it behoves the critic to do something more than clasp his hands, or turn up his eyes, or smack his lips, or murmur "Pretty, pretty, pretty!" like Sir Joshua Reynolds over an amateur drawing. It is his business not only to draw attention—without distinction of country—to the works which he judges to be the best, both for conception and for finish, but to endeavour to discern, by reflection and by comparison, what progress, if any, has been made in an art whose professors—albeit they are often ranked with tradesmen—are, in reality, artists of a very high order; and to establish whether the nineteenth century, so far beyond all preceding ages in the crafts which can ennoble, or refine, or usefully serve humanity, has kept pace with its predecessors, has advanced or has retrograded in the pursuit of an industry that may not tend to any distinctly utilitarian purpose, but will nevertheless always extort our admiration, both for its intrinsic beauty, and for the extrinsic taste and feeling it fosters.

The International Jury of the Fine Arts has just awarded its eight great prizes as follows: Four to France, to MM. Meissonnier, Gerome, Cabanel, and Theodore Rousseau; one to Belgium, to M. Lays; one to Italy, to M. Sephardo Ussi, for his "Banishment of the Duke of Athens;" one to Prussia, to M. Knau; and one to Bavaria, to M. Kaulbach. The jury will next proceed to the distribution of fifteen medals of the first class, and then to those of the second and third.

The Committee of Council on Education, by a special minute, have decided that in order to encourage the masters teaching in schools of science and art to visit the International Exhibition in Paris, they will pay to each such master or mistress (certificated) visiting the Paris Exhibition, the sum of £5 in aid of their expenses, and to each an additional sum of £2 for any report or useful suggestions which any such teacher may make (in respect to his or her duties or teaching) derived from the study of the Exhibition, such report having first been published in any journal, local or otherwise, and afterwards approved by their lordships. And further to each of the best three of such reports the following prizes, in addition to the sum above named: For science, for the best report, £20; for the second best report, £15; for the third best, £10; and the same sums respectively to the three best reports for art.

CASUALTY AND CRIME.

The under-sheriffs of London and Middlesex have received a communication from the Secretary of State respecting the sentence of Charles Anderson, during her Majesty's pleasure.

Her Majesty's paddle-wheel steam sloop *Virago*, 6, Commander H. M. Bingham, from Portsmouth for Australia, when off the Start, on Sunday, broke down her starboard engine, and has been brought into Plymouth harbour in a disabled condition.

A little girl, Ellen Dean by name, eight years of age, was carrying, a large soup jug along one of the streets of Liverpool when she slipped and fell; the jug was broken to pieces, one of which penetrated the child's throat near the jugular vein, and caused her death in a few minutes from hemorrhage.

A boy named James Boyle, 16 years of age, belonging to Edinburgh, went out with a companion on Wednesday to shoot. Both were provided with pistols; and Boyle through some misadventure received the contents of the other boy's pistol behind the right ear, and was killed on the spot.

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Mr. George Drew, of the firm of Drew and Son, the well-known biscuit bakers, was driving his phaeton in Finsbury when a vehicle came into collision with his carriage. Mr. Drew got out to see if either of his horses were injured, and then suddenly fell to the ground. He was raised up, but was found to be quite dead.

A very shocking accident has occurred at the bleach works of Mr. Fox, Old Basford, near Nottingham. It appears that a young man, named George Pinder, was walking along a plank which was laid over some machinery in motion, and while doing so he accidentally slipped off. He was fearfully crushed by the machinery before the engine could be stopped, and died soon afterwards.

Mr. Collins, of the Balmoral Hotel, Broadstairs, together with a boatman named Corney, and two others, started from Broadstairs for the Dover Review in a pleasure-boat. The party landed at St. Margaret's Bay, and in the evening, after the review was over, started in the boat again for home, but they have not since been heard of.

Several persons were arrested in Queenstown on Monday last, and charged with aiding and abetting in the escape of Geary, the notorious Cork Centre. The vessel in which Geary was arrested (the *Elizabeth Cann*) has been detained pending the investigation of the charge against two of the crew—the second mate and an ordinary seaman.

A tradesman and his wife left their house in Dublin on Thursday to attend a suburban horse-race, and on their return at night they found that a deal box, in which all the money they possessed was usually kept, had been broken open, and £210 in gold abstracted. On the information of the servant girl, Mary Mullins, two men named Murphy and Farrell were arrested; and subsequently, "from information received," the police went to a house in Pembroke-road, in the front garden of which, buried close to one of the shrubs, the police found £235 of the stolen money.

A boy only ten years of age, named Joseph Innes, has shot a woman in the employ of Mr. Ward, of Fairtree, near Ledbury. It appears that the woman saw the boy with a gun and told him to be careful with it; the young urchin immediately said in reply, "Mind your own business, or I will blow your brains out." She passed him, and after having gone a few paces,

she turned to look at him, and received the full charge in her forehead, blowing away part of the scalp. She is not expected to recover.

The engine of the 10.30 morning express train from Leeds to London on the Midland Railway, ran off the line near the Methley Junction, about eight miles from Leeds. The engine-driver, named Frank Morgan, of Leeds, was thrown off the engine, ran over, and killed on the spot. The stoker also was a good deal injured, and was removed to the Leeds Infirmary, where one of his arms was amputated. Happily the passengers in the train suffered no material injury, though they were a good deal shaken. After rather more than an hour's delay they proceeded on their journey. The precise cause of the accident has not yet been ascertained.

On Sunday morning a fire broke out in the works of Messrs. Tootal, Broadhurst, Lee, and Co., Daubhill, Bolton, and before effective assistance could be obtained, the whole building was in flames. It is three storeys in height, and in little more than an hour from the time the fire was first discovered the roof had fallen in, and the whole place was completely gutted to the ground floor. Fortunately, the efforts of the brigade confined the fire to this one building. The damage is roughly estimated at £10,000, and is amply covered by insurances. Nothing in the building was saved except the books. It is supposed that the fire originated in the card cutting and lacing room, and that it was caused by spontaneous combustion.

An inquest was held at Steeraway, near Wellington, Salop, upon the body of John Myles, a gamekeeper, in the employ of Lord Forester, who was shot through the heart by his own gun on the previous morning. The evidence adduced, which was very brief, went to show that on Friday morning the deceased went out after breakfast to shoot woodcocks. He was creeping through a gap in a hedge, carrying his loaded double-barrelled gun in his left hand, with the stock down and the barrel by his side, when the piece discharged itself, and the contents entered his left side close by his heart. A man who was in the field ran up on hearing the shot, and the deceased, recognising him, called out "Joe, I'm shot; the Lord have mercy on my soul," and after staggering out of the gap, fell down in the field quite dead.

A shocking accident happened to a boy named William Miles, aged thirteen, the son of a gardener in Durham Down, who was amusing himself with clambering among the rocks at Clifton for the purpose of procuring wild flowers, when he was seen to fall a distance of 80 to 100 feet on to a ledge of rock. Two men, at great personal risk, brought him down, and he was taken to the General Hospital, where it was found that he had sustained a severe fracture of the skull, the wound measuring an inch each way. Not any of his limbs are broken, but there is no hope of his recovery. Shortly before the accident he had been cautioned as to the danger incurred in climbing about, and by neglecting the warning he met with this terrible accident.

During the past few days a bear, supposed to have escaped from the menagerie of Messrs. Stevens, which was exhibiting in Nottingham, at Euster, has been seen roaming in the fields about two miles from the town. It was first observed by some men who were milking cows, and they pursued it, but it got out of the way. The same evening it was seen on the other side of the Trent, having evidently swum the river, a distance of about 100 yards. A young man, named Cockayne, who was ploughing in the neighbourhood of West Bridgford, suddenly came upon the brute, and the ploughman, becoming alarmed, hastily beat a retreat. Cockayne gave information to the country police, several of whom pursued the beast but lost all trace of it when they arrived at Bridgford Cover, in consequence of the darkness. The animal was still at large.

On Saturday afternoon a London parcels delivery cart and horse were left by its driver standing at the door of a shop in Holborn, near Gray's-inn-lane, when the horse suddenly bolted and ran down the hill at full gallop. At St. Andrew's Church he ran into a four-wheeled cab that was being driven up the hill. The force of the collision shattered the cab, and the driver was thrown on to the pavement. The parcel delivery cart was also thrown over on to the pavement. A man, named Thomas Webster, of Princes-street, Spitalfields, and his cousin, a young woman, named Jane Stillwell, were knocked down by the falling cart. While Mr. Webster was lying on the ground he was much injured by the plunging of the horse. An errand boy, named Henry Taylor, was also knocked down, and had his leg broken. The sufferers were carried to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where they received surgical aid.

Mr. John Brander, builder, Bishopmill, while on his way to Aviemore, where he was to be engaged in building a cottage, called at Mrs. Squair's refreshment rooms, at Charlestown, of Aberdeen, and ordered tea and a beef-steak. He had been but a short time in the room when one of Mrs. Squair's daughters heard a noise as if some person were choking. She went in and found Mr. Brander sitting in his chair, with his body doubled forward. Dr. Gerrard was immediately sent for, but Mr. Brander never spoke or showed any sign of sensibility, and died about twenty minutes after he had been first discovered. It was at first supposed that apoplexy was the cause of death, but a post-mortem examination was made by Dr. Gerrard and Dr. Gordon, who discovered two large pieces of beef sticking in his throat, which had, of course, caused death by choking. The deceased was about sixty years of age, and leaves a widow and family in Bishopmill.

Intelligence of a very brutal murder has just reached Londonderry. The victim is an old woman, named Fanny Lynch, and the person who stands charged with the commission of the crime is her own son, Patrick Lynch. They lived together, along with a daughter of the deceased, at Ballyanan, near Bruncrana, county of Donegal, and supported themselves on a small farm there. They had the land stocked with sheep, and on Saturday these trespassed on a neighbouring farm, the owner of which drove the animals to the pound. This circumstance appears to have annoyed Patrick Lynch, and when he returned to his mother's house he was inclined to quarrel with her, as well as with his sister, as he thought that they should have prevented the sheep from trespassing. He turned his sister out of the house, and she sought shelter with a neighbour during the night. Next morning she returned home, and asked to see her mother. Patrick Lynch denied that she was in the house; but his sister entered the room, and found her mother lying on the bed quite dead. Marks of violence were found on her neck, and there could be no doubt that she had been foully murdered. Patrick Lynch, the deceased's son, was at once taken into custody, and at the coroner's inquest on Wednesday the jury found the death of the deceased had been caused by violence. They had no evidence before them to show who was the actual perpetrator of the murder. They, however,

stated that suspicion rested upon Patrick Lynch, and he was sent for trial at the next assizes.

At the United Methodist Free Church, at Wednesday, a lecture on "The Confessional" was being delivered by Mr. Murphy, the Anti-Romanist lecturer, who lately caused so much excitement in Staffordshire and Birmingham by his attacks on Roman Catholics. A temporary gallery, in which 400 persons were crammed, suddenly fell on the persons beneath, and a dreadful panic ensued. Two men's backs were broken, and many others were dangerously wounded. The gallery was considered insecure, though it was constructed in the ordinary way, so far as crossbeams and uprights were concerned; but the ends of the latter, instead of being placed upon stout planks laid upon the floor, were allowed to rest upon the floor itself, which is composed of boards of not more than an inch in thickness. As a natural result, when the gallery became crowded, and the pressure upon the structure great, the end of one, if not more, of the centre uprights was driven through the floor. The crossbeam which it supported, yielding to the pressure, gradually turned over on its side, and while an attempt was being made to put in extra supports—but without removing the audience from the gallery—the crossbeam turned completely over on its side, snapped asunder, and dropped all those standing upon the centre of the gallery down upon the mass of men crowded below. The two ends of the gallery immediately followed, and a frightful scene of confusion and excitement ensued, men and broken or displaced planks being mingled in apparently inextricable confusion, and many of those who were not actually involved in the wreck frantically crowded to the doors, and augmenting the panic by their cries and struggles to escape.

A horrible crime has been committed at Buckhurst-hill, near Woodford, Essex. At 5 o'clock in the morning, a young man, aged 23, the son of Mr. Watkins, a watchmaker, Henikettastreet, Coveat-garden, and proprietor of a freehold estate at Buckhurst, came to the Epping police-station, and said he had stabbed a young woman. A policeman was sent to the spot where she was said to be dying, and there traces of a struggle and a quantity of blood were seen on the ground. A dagger and a round piece of lead, weighing one pound, were also picked up. Thomas Benns, 294 N, states that at 4 o'clock that morning he saw a girl named Matilda Griggs, the daughter of a well-sinker, living in Prince's-road, Buckhurst-hill, covered with blood, and leaning against a fence. She appeared to be in great agony. He asked her what was the matter, and for a time she could not speak. She afterwards said, "I have been stabbed, and a young man whom I have been keeping company with for two years has done it." The policeman helped her along the road to her father's house. Mr. Horne, a surgeon, was sent for, and he found thirteen wounds on her body. Her clothes were cut through in several places. There were four wounds on her head and three on her breast, one her hands, and five on her back. Nine of the wounds had been inflicted by a dagger. She had bled a great deal. On Thursday Dr. Horne gave a certificate that the girl is in a more dangerous state than she had been in on Wednesday, and a special bench of magistrates was convened at Waltham Abbey for the purpose of taking her dying deposition. The magistrates present, Captain Edenburgh and Mr. Williams, proceeded to the house in which the young woman was lying, and the prisoner was brought up before them. After a short examination, all present went to her bedside, and she was raised up in the bed while she spoke to the magistrates. She said:—"On the night of the occurrence I met the prisoner outside my father's house, and I said I was going on the Freehold to Mrs. Grafton's. He asked me if I would walk with him, and I said I would. When we got to the house he persuaded me to go a little farther. While we were walking along he charged me with speaking to other young men, and I said that I did not. He then asked me to get into the field over the pailings, and I did so. He struck me on the head two or three times with something. He then took out a dagger, and he struck me on the back, breast, head, and hand with it several times. I saw the dagger in his hands, and I had seen it before. I knew that he was in the habit of carrying a dagger about with him. I then fell on the grass, and he ran away. I was lying on the ground for a long time, and I heard the clock of Buckhurst-hill strike ten. I tried to get up, but could not. I lay there for a long time, and then I felt strength returning, and I crawled along the grass, through a fence into another field, and there I was lying for some time. I got up then, and I was making my way home when the policeman found me." During the time that the girl was speaking the prisoner remained silent, but when she had concluded, he said, "May I shake hands with her?" The magistrates gave their consent, and he walked over to the bed and kissed the girl. He said, "Good-bye, Tilly, good-bye," but the girl made no reply. He then burst out crying. Police-sergeant Fry said to him, "The charge against you is, cutting and wounding with the intent to murder," and the prisoner replied, "It is quite right," and said, "What time did she get home?" and he was told that she was brought home between four and five o'clock on Wednesday morning. He said, "Not before that? From half-past eight o'clock in the evening?" He also said, "When I was leaving the field I heard her cry, 'Freddie, Freddie,' but as I thought that she could not last long, I did not return to her, I ran across the fields and down the road until I got to Epping-forest. When I met a policeman or anybody on the road I thought that he was pointing his finger at me. I had a package of poison in my pocket. It was oxalic acid, and I took it out and chewed it. It was in a powder, and it only burned my tongue and mouth. I then thought of going to the police-station at Loughton, but I thought they might be asleep. When I got to Epping I walked about the town from two o'clock until five in the morning, not wishing to disturb the police." The prisoner has been visited by his brother, and has given a full account of his walk through Epping Forest after he left the girl in the field. He says, "When I was running away I heard her crying, and I thought of returning to her, but then I thought that the crying would soon stop, and I ran on. I had sense enough not to go along the road, for fear I might meet some one, so I ran across the fields. When I got to the Forest I felt as if I was walking in my sleep, and I was startled several times, for everything I saw as I was walking along looked like a policeman or somebody else. When I got to High Beach I laid down on the grass under some trees. Just before I was going to sleep I took a packet of oxalic acid out of my pocket. It was so long. (The prisoner described it as being about from two to three inches long.) I put the end of it into my mouth, and bit it. It began to boil in my mouth, and then I took another bite, but that boiled. I tried a third bite, and then I thought, 'This is worse than being hanged.' I then went to sleep for about three hours, and when I got to Epping it was two o'clock." A person asked the prisoner if he did not think that the devil was near him when he attacked the girl, but the only reply he gave was a smile. He asked the prison warders why they had taken away his handkerchief, and when he was told "For fear you should hang yourself," he said, "I would rather leave the hanging of me to others."

OBITUARY

LORD LLANOVER.—The demise of the above nobleman took place on Saturday morning at his residence in May Fair, after a painful illness, arising from a shock of a gun about twelve months since. The deceased nobleman was the eldest son of Benjamin Hall, M.P., of Hensall Castle, Glamorganshire. He was born in 1802, and consequently was at that time of his death 65 years of age. The deceased married in 1823 the daughter and co-heir of the late Benjamin Waddington, Esq., of Llanover, Monmouthshire. He received his education at Westminster and Christchurch, Oxford, and first entered Parliament as member for Monmouth, in 1831. In November, 1837, he was elected for the borough of Marylebone, which constituency he continued to represent until June, 1859, when he was elevated to the peerage with the title of Lord Llanover. Previous to his acceptance of office, Sir Benjamin Hall took a leading and active part in the discussions in the House of Commons on questions affecting the Church Establishment. In August, 1854, he accepted the office of President of the Board of Health, which he held until August of the following year when he accepted the post of First Commissioner of Works. It was during his tenure of that office that Sir Benjamin Hall introduced the measure for the local government of the metropolis under which the present Metropolitan Board of Works was elected, and made such great improvements in the parks of the metropolis. He was created a baronet in 1838, privy councillor 1864, and Lord Llanover in 1859.

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